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FBIS-SOV-89-125 CONTENTS *30 June 1989*

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

- Pact Proposes European 'Regions' at Vienna Talks *[TASS]* ... 1
- Troop Withdrawal From East Europe on Schedule *[TASS]* ... 1
- U.S. Statement Shows Shift on Nuclear Tests *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 28 Jun]* ... 1
- 'Progress' Seen in Geneva Chemical Weapons Talks *[TASS]* ... 2
- USSR To Attend Chemical Weapons Conference *[TASS]* ... 2
- U.S. Moves on Missile Modernization Condemned *[Bogachev on TASS]* ... 2
- SDI Program Arouses 'Concern' for START Talks *[Solton on Moscow International]* ... 2
- Nazarkin Views Prospects for Geneva Talks *[ZA RUBEZHOM No 25]* ... 3

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

- Gorbachev Message Circulated at United Nations *[TASS]* ... 5
- Shevardnadze's Message to Nonaligned Forum Cited *[TASS]* ... 5
- International Trade Union Seminar Ends 29 Jun *[TASS]* ... 5

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

- Baker Cited on Bush's Upcoming Visit to Europe *[TASS]* ... 6
- Bush's Remarks to Newsmen on USSR Ties Cited *[PRAVDA 29 Jun]* ... 6
- Bessmertnykh Meets With U.S. Financier Soros *[TASS]* ... 6
- Soviet, U.S. Naval Groups To Exchange Visits *[TASS]* ... 7
- Pentagon Plans Tests on 'Brilliant Pebbles' Concept *[Moscow Radio]* ... 7
- Dubinin Addresses U.S. Congressional Commission *[TASS]* ... 7
- Yakovlev Addresses Soviet-U.S. Symposium *[TASS]* ... 7
  - On Not Rejecting Each Other's Values *[TASS]* ... 8
  - Interviewed After Symposium *[Moscow TV]* ... 8

China

- PRC Has 'Deep Regret' Over Council Statement *[TASS]* ... 9
- PRC 'Anti-Corruption' Drive Reported *[IZVESTIYA 30 Jun]* ... 9
- Li Peng Vows To Punish 'Small Handful' Only *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Jun]* ... 10
- Li Peng Rebuttal of Western 'Pressure' Cited *[IZVESTIYA 23 Jun]* ... 11
- Moscow TV on Arrest of Taiwan 'Agents' in PRC ... 11
- Beijing International Fair Highlighted *[Moscow Radio]* ... 12

Northeast Asia

- Nikonov Begins Official Visits to DPRK, Mongolia *[TASS]* ... 12
  - Delegation Arrives in DPRK *[TASS]* ... 13
  - Nikonov Addresses Reception *[PRAVDA 30 Jun]* ... 13
- Soviet-Mongolian Consultations on Consular Issues *[IZVESTIYA 17 Jun]* ... 14

Near East & South Asia

- Gorbachev Receives Moroccan Foreign Minister *[PRAVDA 30 Jun]* ... 14
- Afghanistan's Wakil on U.S. Rebel Decision *[TASS]* ... 15
- Afghanistan's Wakil Stops Over in Moscow *[Moscow Radio]* ... 15
  - Departs for Kabul *[TASS]* ... 15
- Soviet POW Committee Visits Pakistan *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 28 Jun]* ... 15

Rebel Shelling of Jalalabad, Khowst Noted *[TASS]* 16
Afghan Rebels Fail To Secure Objectives *[IZVESTIYA 29 Jun]* 16
Governor Says Qandahar Safe From Mujahidin *[PRAVDA 28 Jun]* 17
U.S. Both 'Promotes, Hinders' Mideast Peace *[Moscow Radio Peace and Progress]* 18
Greetings to Bangladesh Party Leader Noted *[PRAVDA 24 Jun]* 19

Sub-Saharan Africa

Opening of Summit on Angola Noted *[Moscow International]* 19
  Results Discussed *[Moscow International]* 20
Burundi Foreign Minister Ends Visit 17 Jun *[PRAVDA 18 Jun]* 20

East Europe

GDR's Honecker Continues Visit to Magnitogorsk 20
  Tours Steel Combine Museum *[East Berlin ADN]* 20
  Honors Lenin in Magnitogorsk *[East Berlin ADN]* 21
  Talks to Combine Workers *[Moscow TV]* 21
  Addresses Magnitogorsk Citizens *[Moscow TV]* 22
  Further on Address at Meeting *[PRAVDA 30 Jun]* 22
East German SED Party Plenum Reported *[PRAVDA 25 Jun]* 24
Solovyev Receives Dresden Delegation *[LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Jun]* 24
Hungary's Grosz Under Fire, To Resign *[IZVESTIYA 29 Jun]* 25
MSZMP Issues Draft Party Statutes *[PRAVDA 21 Jun]* 25
Polish Elections, Solidarity Criticism Viewed *[Moscow TV]* 25
Troops Withdrawing From Poland Interviewed *[Moscow TV]* 26
PZPR's Czarzasty on Lessons of Election *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 22 Jun]* 26
'Strange' Report on Bulgarian Expulsions Denied *[Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO 23 Jun]* 27

West Europe

Lukyanov, New French Ambassador Meet in Moscow 28
  Ambassador Presents Credentials *[Moscow Radio]* 28
  'Friendly Conversation' Held *[TASS]* 28
Kamentsev, UK Minister Sign Protocol of Intent *[TASS]* 28
Rogachev, UK Official Discuss Asia-Pacific *[TASS]* 29
Council of Europe Delegation Visits Moscow 29
  Primakov Meets Delegation *[TASS]* 29
  Delegation Head Holds News Briefing *[TASS]* 29
FRG International Security Seminar Ends *[TASS]* 29
Black Sea Fleet Detachment To Visit Istanbul *[TASS]* 29

Latin America & Caribbean

Costa Rica's Bianchini Continues USSR Visit 30
  Holds 28 Jun Moscow News Conference *[TASS]* 30
  'Pleased' With Talks in USSR *[San Jose Radio]* 30

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

29 Jun Supreme Soviet Proceedings Reported 31
  Ryzhkov Discusses Procedures *[Moscow International]* 31
  Biryukova's Appointment Reported *[Moscow Radio]* 31
  Gusev Appointment, Criticism Noted *[TASS]* 31
  Discussion of Gusev Appointment *[Moscow Radio]* 32
  Gusev Debate Relayed *[Moscow Radio]* 32
  Gusev Interviewed on Shortages *[Moscow Radio]* 36
  Further on 29 Jun Session *[Moscow TV]* 37
  Committee Examines Economic Reform *[TASS]* 38

30 Jun Supreme Soviet Proceedings Reported 39
  Ministerial Appointments on Agenda *[Moscow Radio]* 39
  Doguzhiyev Appointed Deputy Chair *[TASS]* 39
  Doguzhiyev Debates Detailed *[TASS]* 39
  Shevardnadze Confirmed Foreign Minister *[TASS]* 39
  Kamentsev Fails To Win Deputy Chair *[TASS]* 39
  Debate on Candidacy Detailed *[TASS]* 40
Abalkin Answers Questions on Economy 28 Jun *[TRUD 29 Jun]* 40
Abalkin on Relations With Ryzhkov, New Position *[Moscow International]* 43
Ryzhkov Interviewed; Agrees on Market Criticism *[Moscow International]* 43
Ryzhkov Discusses Market Problems, Other Issues *[Moscow International]* 44
Impressions of 26 Jun Supreme Soviet Session *[PRAVDA 29 Jun]* 44
Committees, Commissions Discuss Candidacies *[TASS]* 47
Youth Affairs Committee Holds News Conference *[Moscow Radio]* 48
Correction to Lapygin Security Group Interview 48
Budapest TV Interviews Yeltsin on Restructuring *[Budapest MTI]* 49
Uzbek Prosecutor's Television Interview Cited *[PRAVDA VOSTOKA 11 Jun]* 49
Fergana Events, Causes Reexamined *[Moscow TV]* 50
Yakovlev Speaks on Role of Socialist Market *[PRAVDA 23 Jun]* 51
Baklanov Visit to Aircraft Supply Plant Detailed *[PRAVDA 21 Jun]* 54
Nikonov Meets With Moscow Dairy Workers *[Moscow Radio]* 55
Nikonov Visits Vladivostok, Maritime Kray 26-29 Jun 56
  Tours City Fish Combine *[Vladivostok Maritime Service]* 56
  Vosits Exhibition *[Moscow TV]* 56
  Attends Fishermen's Conference *[TASS]* 56
Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Holds Meeting 22 Jun 57
  Kafarova New Presidium Chair *[Baku Radio]* 57
  Session Addresses NKAO Problems *[IZVESTIYA 24 Jun]* 57
Kafarova Receives Party Post at Azerbaijan Plenum *[Baku Radio]* 58
Azerbaijan's Vezirov Meets Youth Representatives *[Baku Radio]* 58
New Commission for Return of Azerbaijanis, Armenians *[Moscow Radio]* 59
NKAO Rally Criticizes Antirestructuring Deputies *[Yerevan KOMMUNIST 6 Jun]* 59
NKAO Situation, Silkworm Infestation Reported *[ARMENPRES]* 59
'Karabakh Committee' Member Petrosyan Interviewed *[Yerevan Radio]* 59
Yerevan Party Leader Replaced at 20 Jun Gorkom *[Yerevan Radio]* 60
Armenian Party Ideological Committee Meets *[ARMENPRES]* 61
Armenian Council of Ministers Rules on Housing *[Yerevan Radio]* 61
Armenian Supreme Soviet Seniors' Council Meets *[Yerevan Radio]* 61
Armenian Supreme Soviet Meets in Yerevan 23 Jun 61
  Ninth Session of Eleventh Congress *[Yerevan Radio]* 61
  Presidium Resolves on Agenda *[Yerevan Radio]* 62
  Arutyunyan Discusses Proceedings *[Moscow Radio]* 63
  Social, Ecological Commissions *[Yerevan Radio]* 63
  Supreme Soviet Session Concludes *[TASS]* 63
Yerevan Rally Addresses Resolutions to Parliament *[Yerevan International]* 64
Police Lieutenant To Die for Murder, Robbery *[PRAVDA 22 Jun]* 64
'Ecologically Unfit' Gas Plant To Close *[PRAVDA 17 Jun]* 65

Economic

Academician Defends Economic Scientists *[IZVESTIYA 27 Jun]* 65

Scientific

Joint USSR-UK 'Juno' Space Mission Planned 68
  Agreement Signed *[TASS]* 68
  Cosmonaut Interviewed on Project *[Moscow Radio]* 68
  UK Seeks Astronaut Candidate *[Moscow TV]* 69

Military

Group of Forces in GDR Renamed 'Western Group' *[TASS]* 70
Further Reportage on Damaged Submarine 70
  Sub Returns to Home Base *[IZVESTIYA 29 Jun]* 70
  Rumors About Sub 'Exaggerated' *[TASS]* 70
  Observations on Accidents at Sea *[PRAVDA 28 Jun]* 71
Akhromeyev Interviewed on Role of Military *[Budapest TV]* 72
Lizichev Addresses Moscow District Party Aktiv *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 29 Jun]* 74

Pact Proposes European 'Regions' at Vienna Talks

LD2906203789 Moscow TASS in English 1801 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Vienna June 29 TASS - By TASS correspondent Vladimir Smelov:

At the current talks here on conventional armed forces in Europe, socialist countries came forward with a proposal which local political analysts describe as being of importance for headway towards reaching mutually acceptable solutions.

Taking into account the exchange of views at the forum, Ambassador L. Balcar, the Czechoslovak chief delegate, on behalf of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation (WTO), on Thursday set out additional considerations pertaining to a regional division of the common conventional arms reduction zone from the Atlantic to the Urals, and the fixing of appropriate ceilings.

In the new working document, it is suggested that the entire zone from the Atlantic to the Urals be divided into four regions. These are, firstly, Central Europe which would include the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and the Baltic, Belorussian, sub-Carpathian and Kiev military districts of the USSR on the WTO side, and Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, and Britain on the NATO side.

Secondly, Europe's north which would include the northern part of the Leningrad Military District of the USSR on the WTO side, and Norway on the NATO side.

Thirdly, Europe's south: Romania, Bulgaria, and the Odessa, north Caucasian, and trans-Caucasian military districts of the USSR on the WTO side, and Italy, Greece, and Turkey on the NATO side.

The fourth region would include rear areas: the southern part of the Leningrad Military District, the Moscow, Volga, and Ural military districts of the USSR on the WTO side, and Spain, Portugal, and Iceland on the NATO side.

Maximum ceilings for the numerical strength of personnel and the number of combat strike aircraft, helicopter gunships, tanks, artillery, and armoured combat vehicles would be established in the above-mentioned regions for each of the alliances.

This is a question of a 'second variant' of regional division, which was mentioned in the documents submitted at the talks earlier by the delegations of Bulgaria and the GDR.

It is meant that the present considerations do not remove but organically supplement the proposals contained in the 'first variant'. Socialist countries proceed from the assumption that both variants will be on the negotiating table as possible alternative approaches to a solution to the complex problem of regional division.

Troop Withdrawal From East Europe on Schedule

LD3006080389 Moscow TASS in English 0749 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 30 TASS—The Soviet troop withdrawal from the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Mongolia is proceeding strictly according to schedule, a Soviet military official has said.

Colonel General Bronislav Omelichev, first deputy head of the Armed Forces General Staff, told TASS that the majority of Soviet troops to be withdrawn will have left by August 15, while the complete withdrawal is scheduled for December 1, 1989.

Omelichev said that nearly 26,000 troops, more than 3,000 tanks, 616 artillery guns, and more than 40 aircraft have already been withdrawn by the Soviet Union from the territories of its Warsaw Treaty allies and Mongolia.

The general said the units being withdrawn will be disbanded, part of the military equipment and armaments will be destroyed, another part will be transferred to storage bases, and some will be used in the national economy.

Commenting on the decision to rename the group of Soviet troops in Germany the Western Group, Omelichev said that this was done at the request of the GDR leadership.

"The new name of the group is more accurate," he said, adding that "the status of Soviet troops in the GDR, which was defined in the September 20, 1955 treaty on relations between the USSR and the GDR and other bilateral agreements, as well as their rights and responsibilities, stemming from relevant agreements and decisions of the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and France in the war and postwar periods, have remained unchanged."

U.S. Statement Shows Shift on Nuclear Tests

PM2906124189 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev dispatch for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "Changes Are Not Planned"]

[Text] Washington—The White House issued a statement on Monday [26 Jun] in connection with the beginning of the fourth round of Soviet-U.S. full-scale talks on the limitation and cessation of nuclear tests. It shows that President G. Bush's administration has decided not to make substantial amendments to the previous government's policy in this sphere of arms control either.

"The U.S. approach toward these talks," the White House statement says, "supplements our efforts to secure agreements that would strengthen our security and stability." "The completion of work on protocols to ensure effective monitoring" of the 1974 and 1976 Soviet-U.S. accords on, respectively, the limitation of underground nuclear weapons tests and underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes is described as the United States' immediate task at these talks, which resumed 26 June after a break of almost 6 months owing to the Bush administration's analysis of military and foreign policy.

The U.S. Government did not submit either of these accords to the Senate for examination for the purposes of ratification since, the statement says, they "were not subjected to examination in their original form" although such claims have been refuted by certain prominent U.S. scientists. The White House noted that the sides succeeded in "achieving a great deal" at the previous rounds of the Geneva talks, in particular, "work on a protocol to the Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes has largely been completed."

The White House emphasizes that the U.S. stance at the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation and cessation of nuclear tests "is based on a realistic approach to our security." "While we have to rely on nuclear arms, we should continue testing them."

In other words, the U.S. Administration is not aiming to secure agreements on the complete banning of nuclear tests. "The White House is in favor of a slow pace at arms control talks," THE WASHINGTON POST writes.

A large group of U.S. congressmen recently called for this stance to be reviewed. "We believe," said a letter which 23 senators and 142 representatives sent to President Bush at the beginning of May, "that it is time to review this policy and begin to take practical steps toward a complete ban on all nuclear explosions."

'Progress' Seen in Geneva Chemical Weapons Talks

LD2906175389 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Geneva June 29 TASS—The 11th round of Soviet-American consultations on the prohibition of chemical weapons ended in Geneva today.

Tangible progress on many questions under discussion has been reached in the talks.

USSR To Attend Chemical Weapons Conference

LD2906140889 Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has sent a letter to his Australian counterpart Gareth Evans in connection with the international conference of representatives of governments and industry in Canberra between September 18-22, 1989. He expressed the Soviet Union's agreement to participate in the conference, which aims at uniting and improving the efforts of governments and industry to ensure the quick signing and implementation of an international convention on the banning and elimination of chemical weapons.

U.S. Moves on Missile Modernization Condemned

LD2906192589 Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev: NATO's "compromise decision" in Brussels to delay the discussion of the modernisation of American short-range nuclear systems in Europe till 1992 in actual fact appeared to be Washington's tactical manoeuvre which aimed to tone down anti-nuclear public sentiments in West Germany, Belgium and other member- countries of the alliance.

In less than two months after the "compromise on delay" was forged at the NATO Council session amid wide publicity, the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress approved the appropriation of 71 million dollars for research related to the modernization of Lance nuclear missiles, forestalling the NATO decision on their subsequent deployment on the European continent.

The "compromise" in Brussels has actually helped the Bush Administration to get these funds. More recently, the U.S. Congress moved against allocating money for these purposes until a "signal" is received from the NATO European countries about their consent to place the new nuclear missiles on their territory. These "signals" did not, however, come from West Germany—in the run-up to the parliamentary elections the Bonn Government is forced to reckon with the public opinion.

In Brussels, the U.S. Administration succeeded in playing a "dual-track decision" on Lance missile modernisation. To put it more accurately, to present two interpretations of one and the same decision - West Europeans were told that the United States "yields" to their demands for a delay in modernisation, and American lawmakers were assured that the NATO decision is just the self-same signal from Western Europe which was needed by them to set aside funds for new short-range missiles.

As the saying goes "It is hard to have wolf full and wether whole." This proverb does not, however, suit here. In any case, in the part concerning wether.

SDI Program Arouses 'Concern' for START Talks

LD2906193489 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] At the United States Congress the bill on SDI [Strategic Defense Initiative] has sparked off a heated debate as congressional committees discuss concrete weapons programs in the framework of next year's military budget put at more than $300 billion. The White House insists on nearly $5 billion to finance its star wars program, but the legislators would allow much less. Commentary now from Yuriy Solton:

Putting aside speculations as to who wins this tug of war, or what compromise could be reached, this seems a highly dangerous trend to emerge. By its words and deeds the Bush Administration is showing it is dead set on implementing the Strategic Defense Initiative, which may trigger off an arms race in space and put brakes on the disarmament processes now under way.

Although it's hard to say to what extent the administration's decision is influenced by the military-industrial complex, there seems to be little doubt that it looks back to joint arms manufacturers both in matters of star wars and other aspects of its military policy. This gives rise to some concern over the future of the START talks which Soviet and American arms negotiators began recently in Geneva. The talks had already made headway in strategic arms reductions and had agreed to set ceilings of 1,600 vehicles and 6,000 warheads each. Some other issues had also been resolved but no agreement had been reached on sticking to the 1972 ABM [Anti-Ballistic Missile] Treaty for some time, and that makes the START deal impossible. The issues was a major stumbling block under the Reagan Administration. The expectations that the new administration led by President Bush would come up with new approaches has not come true for the time being.

The hitch may be caused by Washington's fear least the ABM treaty stands in the way of its star wars program, but delays in the Geneva talks cannot last forever, and the White House will eventually have to make its choice between a new round of the arms race, this time in space, and the support for the President's statement that his country wants to move ahead in the reduction of strategic weapons.

Nazarkin Views Prospects for Geneva Talks

52000058 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 25, 16-22 Jun 89 p 1

[Article by Yuriy Nazarkin, head of the Soviet delegation on negotiations with the United States on nuclear and space weapons: "The Task: To Make Up for Lost Time. Ideas and Opinions"]

[Excerpts] Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear and space weapons are being reopened on 19 June this year after a long break that lasted more than 7 months. This significant pause arose because the new U.S. Administration needed time for appropriate preparations. The reason, of course, is understandable, but a fact is a fact: Quite a lot of time has been lost and in order to make up for the loss, intensive work is needed at the negotiations that are being resumed.

The government of George Bush has changed the leadership of the delegation. It is now headed by R. Burt, former ambassador to the FRG, who will simultaneously also be the U.S. representative in a group on strategic offensive weapons (SNV). We also have a new delegation head; however, on the whole the Soviet "team" remains as before, which will ensure continuity at the negotiations. [passage omitted]

The question remains about what the limitations will be on heavy bombers and long-range airborne cruise missiles. The impetus for its resolution was given as a result of last year's Soviet-American summit meeting in Moscow. A document "Areas of Agreement" was composed at that time. Now we have to arrive at a complete resolution of the question.

It will be necessary to continue coordination on the procedure for limitations on mobile missile launchers for intercontinental ballistic missiles (MBR) [ICBM], (both ground and rail). A mutual understanding was also reached during the Moscow meeting on this question.

During the last 10 rounds of negotiations, a good foundation was prepared for the conclusion of a treaty. Joint drafts of five documents were drawn up: The treaty itself concerning a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons, initial data, and three protocols—concerning the throw weight of ballistic missiles, inspections, and conversions or elimination of systems that fall within the scope of the treaty. The joint draft of the treaty reflects, in particular, an earlier achieved agreement about the establishment of maximum levels, not exceeding 1,600 units for strategic delivery vehicles and 6,000 units for warheads on them, and also an agreement on maximum sublevels of 4,900 units for a total number of warheads for intercontinental ballistic missiles (MBR) and ballistic missiles on submarines (BRPL)[SLBM], and 1,540 warheads on 154 heavy missiles. The sides have also settled on an agreement that as a result of the reductions, the total throw weight of ICBMs and SLBMs will be reduced to a level that is about 50 percent of its current level on ballistic missiles of the USSR, and that this level will not be increased by either side.

Thus, a large part of the work has already been done, and now it is necessary to bring the matter to its completion on the basis of the available agreements on principle and the jointly prepared, and, in many ways, coordinated draft documents. However, a number of unresolved problems remain.

This is first of all the problems of the interrelationship of the 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons, with adherence to the Anti-Ballistic Missile [ABM] Treaty. The fact is that a close relationship exists between strategic offensive weapons and defensive systems. This is not some kind of an artificial "linkage," but an objectively existing reality. In its time the American side also acknowledged this relationship. It is reflected, in particular, in the Soviet-American ABM Treaty, whose preamble states: "... effective measures to limit antimissile defense systems would be an important factor in the matter of deterring strategic offensive weapons...."

At a summit meeting in Washington in December 1987, the leaders of the USSR and the United States instructed their delegates in Geneva to draw up an agreement that would obligate the parties to observe the ABM Treaty, in the form it was signed in 1972, in the process of conducting research, development and, where necessary, tests that are allowed by the ABM Treaty, and not to breach the treaty during the period agreed on. Work will be continued now with the aim of drawing up such an agreement on the basis of Washington's formula.

A very important problem, on which the fate of the future straegic offensive weapons treaty hinges, is setting limits on long-range sea-based cruise missiles (KRMB) [SLCM]. The Washington joint announcement at the summit fixed mutual commitments to establish maximum numbers for them with effective inspection. During the negotiations, the Soviet side, adhering to this commitment, submitted a proposal on the method of limitations.

These are the most important problems that face the sides at the negotiations on nuclear and space weapons. Of course, there are also a number of other questions that have not been coordinated.

What will the U.S. delegation bring with it to Geneva? During the visit of U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker to Moscow (May of this year), the American side, as well as the Soviet side, expressed an interest in an active dialogue on the problem of nuclear and space weapons. It agreed with the fact that a large part of the work has already been done toward the preparation of a treaty on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons, and that it is now necessary to bring the matter to its conclusion. U.S. representatives assured that they will conduct negotiations on the basis of agreed joint drafts of the treaty and its accompanying documents.

The overall approach of the new administration to the problem of nuclear and space weapons was set forth by the American side in Moscow. It was explained at that time that specific details on the positions will be presented later during the negotiations that were to be resumed in Geneva. J. Baker reported that the United States had not yet worked out its specific positions at the negotiations, but he emphasized that they will contain "a considerable degree of continuity." Of course, one cannot judge on the basis of such general explanations in which direction the U.S. positions are being transformed.

Recently, reports have appeared in the American press that are of specific interest from the standpoint of those processes which are occuring in Washington in connection with negotiations on YaKV [nuclear and space weapons]. Thus, according to information from THE NEW YORK TIMES, the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces said that the United States should no longer insist on its right in time to deploy a large-scale ABM system with space-based components, and it recommended the introduction of appropriate changes in the position of the American delegation in the nuclear and space weapons negotiations in Geneva. This proposal was submitted for review by the White House within the framework of a review of administration policy on strategic weapons policy, which began soon after President George Bush assumed office. Of course, this is still only a recommendation, whose fate is not yet known. Nonetheless, its advancement shows that U.S. high-ranking military leaders view with scepticism the prospects for the "star wars" program which was started during R. Reagan's administration.

As for the Soviet side, it is ready to resolve the remaining problems, to bring the matter to an elimination of the concerns of both sides, and in a mutually acceptable way to move jointly toward the completion of work on a strategic offensive weapons treaty, which, under conditions of adherence to the ABM Treaty as it was written in 1972, will promote strategic stability and a reinforcement of security not only for the Soviet and American people, but for all humanity. An acceleration of this process is also required by the task of reducing expenditures on defense, without detriment to defensive capabilities, and in the interests of freeing additional resources for the needs of the peaceful economy of the country.

Gorbachev Message Circulated at United Nations

LD2906220389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2051 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] New York, 30 Jun (TASS)—In the United Nations on Thursday [29 June], in the form of a document of the UN General Assembly and Security Council, a message was circulated from M.S. Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania, and Sweden on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the peace and disarmament initiative of the six. It stresses among other things that the nuclear disarmament process that has started with the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles must become irreversible.

Shevardnadze's Message to Nonaligned Forum Cited

LD2906174989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2152 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] The Hague, 28 Jun (TASS)—Today, at the conference of ministers from nonaligned countries on the subject "Peace and International Law," which is taking place in The Hague, A.D. Chikvaidze, head of the Soviet delegation, USSR ambassador to the Netherlands, read out the text of a message from E.A. Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister, to the participants in the meeting.

The decision of the Nonaligned Movement to convene a conference on questions of peace and international law, notes the address, is highly appraised by the USSR as an important step toward strengthening international law and order and legality. The USSR proceeds from the fact that order in the world, ensuring equal security for all and based upon the principles of the UN charter, is only possible under the strict observance of agreed norms of interstate relations and the binding force of international law for all states. The world community, indicates the message, is right to expect that the meeting in The Hague will contribute to the peaceful settlement of disputes, resolving regional conflicts, and warning of the beginning of crisis situations. The Soviet foreign minister's message expresses conviction that the forum of the Nonaligned Movement will become an important stage in strengthening the role of international law.

International Trade Union Seminar Ends 29 Jun

LD2906222989 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—An international trade union seminar on problems of joint ventures concluded today in the Soviet capital. It was attended by representatives of trade unions and firms from 11 countries, including Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Italy, Mongolia, Poland, West Germany, the USSR, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

Special attention was devoted by the seminar members to aspects of enhancing the role played by trade unions in the protection of the interests of working people at joint ventures on the bases of international legal acts.

Although there are more than 500 joint ventures on the territory of the Soviet Union at present, the practice of union work at them is only just taking shape, Valentin Makeyev, secretary of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU), said in his address. Reasons for this are to be sought, above all, in the fact that joint ventures involving capitalist partners are a new development in the Soviet Union. Besides, the new enterprises differ considerably in size and type of activity.

Fedor Kiyashko, deputy head of the international department of the AUCCTU, said that the administration of joint ventures disposed of rather effective means to exact submission from both the work force and trade union activists.

The executive director of the Public Association of Joint Ventures, International Amalgamations and Organizations set up in September 1988, Viktor Mitrofanov set forth the tasks faced by this public organisation. The federation, he said, must become the mouthpiece voicing the interests of people employed by joint ventures concerning the whole range of their work and living conditions and requirements.

Joseph Pricken of the Schiss firm of Duesseldorf told TASS in an interview that the recent visit of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to West Germany showed that great perspectives were open for setting up new Soviet-West German joint ventures.

The participants of the seminar thought it advisable to continue the practice of holding seminars of trade union activists on issues connected with the union work at joint ventures and further expansion of cooperation in this field.

United States & Canada

Baker Cited on Bush's Upcoming Visit to Europe

LD2906225489 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1720 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Washington, 29 Jun (TASS)—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The political and economic transformations taking place in the European socialist countries will be one of the key issues during President Bush's forthcoming trip to Europe and on the agenda of the regular conference of the leaders of the seven leading capitalist countries, which will be held in Paris in mid-July. This was stated today at a White House press conference by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

"The President's trip will take place in a period of great change, at a time of opportunity and hope, experienced both in the East and in the West," Baker noted. It emerged from his further utterances that Bush intends, in his speeches in Europe, to highlight the White House's recently produced concept of "Western values," which are, according to the secretary of state, "the common thread binding together the peoples of Europe and America." "In particular, the President will stress the importance of the development of the private sector, a pluralist political system and an open society," Baker announced. Among the priority questions on the agenda of the economic conference of the "Seven" in Paris, he identified "the defense and diffusion of common Western values, especially in Eastern Europe."

U.S. officials openly acknowledge that this concept of "common Western values," which Washington would like to foist on the European socialist countries and the rest of the world, has appeared as a counterweight to the USSR's idea of "building the common European home," which has evoked a wide response among the peoples of Europe. Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the political mentor of the top people in the present administration, emphasized in THE WASHINGTON POST last December that "The West needs a concept of what it understands by peace." "Especially," he recommended, "the West ought to accept boldly the challenge of the idea of the 'European home' but to turn it into a concept which would offer the U.S. version of a 'more secure Europe and world.' In less than 6 months, Secretary of State Baker stated in his speech in the middle of May on the Worldnet television network, the U.S. President intends to set off the concept of "common Western values" against the "calls of General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev to create a common European home."

At his press conference in the White House, Secretary of State Baker stated again that the United States does not want to "repeat the mistakes of the seventies," when credits and loans were supplied to the European socialist countries without specifically coordinating them with the implementation there of "appropriate economic reforms." In his words, the main principle which the West will now be guided in assessing its aid must be the progress of "economic and political reforms" in Eastern Europe. [sentence indistinct] As has been noted recently by THE WASHINGTON POST: "The path which will be taken by the changes in Eastern Europe will be of great importance for the United States not only because of its effect on East-West relations and the prospects for disarmament but also because of the way this can change common relations between the United States and Europe."

Bush's Remarks to Newsmen on USSR Ties Cited

PM2906131789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Closer to Each Other"]

[Text] Washington, 28 Jun—Soviet-U.S. relations are developing in a generally correct direction, although colossal differences still exist between us and the Soviet Union, and I am still guided by a certain sense of caution, U.S. President G. Bush said at a news conference in the White House Tuesday.

I think that the Soviet side knows that we want to move forward in the sphere of strategic arms reduction. They know that we are ready to move forward quickly in the sphere of conventional forces, correcting imbalances, G. Bush said. He noted that the two sides "are drawing closer to each other on some of these broad and large-scale objectives."

At the same time, the President went on, "certain very positive phenomena, albeit on a smaller scale," are under way in our bilateral relations. In this context G. Bush mentioned the participation of a Soviet ship in operations to clean up oil pollution in the Gulf of Alaska, the help of U.S. specialists in the treatment of burns, and U.S. solidarity with the victims of the Armenian earthquake. These are very important happenings. They will help us when we embark on the examination of details at the strategic arms talks or discuss other issues.

Answering a question about the possibility of holding a Soviet-U.S. summit in the near future G. Bush said that this problem has been discussed and will be discussed again.

Bessmertnykh Meets With U.S. Financier Soros

LD2906192589 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—Aleksander Bessmertnykh, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, met today prominent American financier George Soros. A circumstantial conversation took place covering the state of affairs and perspectives for the development of political, trade and economic relations between the USSR and the USA.

Soviet, U.S. Naval Groups To Exchange Visits

LD2906202389 Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—It was reported here today that under an agreement reached, in July-August groups of Soviet and U.S. naval vessels will exchange official visits. The Soviet group, consisting of "Marshal Ustinov" missile cruiser, destroyer "Otlichnyy" (The Excellent One) and tanker "Genrikh Gasanov" will visit the port of Norfolk between 21 and 25 July. Vice-Admiral Igor Kasatonov, first deputy commander of the Northern Fleet, will head the group.

The group of U.S. naval vessels will pay an official visit to the port of Sevastopol in the first half of August.

Pentagon Plans Tests on 'Brilliant Pebbles' Concept

LD2406172589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 24 jun 89

[Text] The Pentagon has planned to hold the first space tests of components of an antimissile defense system being developed as part of the Brilliant Pebbles concept as early as next year. An official spokesman for the Pentagon organization for implementing the Strategic Defense Initiative, Major O'Connell, has said that in 1990-1993, 12 such tests will be held, four of them in close-Earth orbit. According to this concept, which U.S. military strategists view as the basis of the star wars program, the United States intends to place in low orbit several thousand small interceptor missiles, rather than large-scale and costly weapons systems. They are capable of destroying strategic intercontinental missiles.

Dubinin Addresses U.S. Congressional Commission

LD2806113389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0023 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Washington, 28 June, TASS—The USSR ambassador to the United States of America Yu. V. Dubinin addressed a group of U.S. legislators and members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the Capitol building on Tuesday [27 June]. This commission, which operates under Congress, is often called the "Helsinki" commission, and it deals mainly with problems relating to human rights.

It is to the problem of human rights that the Soviet ambassador devoted his address. Pointing to such distinguishing features of restructuring in the USSR as democratization and glasnost, he stressed that "a particularly important step along the road of creating a law-governed state lies in reform of the legal and court system". Following international rules and principles, including those laid down in the universal declaration of human rights and the Helsinki and Vienna agreements, the Soviet Union will make its contribution to the creation of a worldwide community of states which will be founded on the principles of the supremacy of the law.

Reminding his listeners that until recently the question of emigration had generated sharp arguements during Soviet-American discussions of humanitarian problems, he added that many obstacles in this area had already been overcome, and the so-called problem of the refuseniks "had already been removed".

Rating highly the results of the first Soviet-U.S. interparliamentary seminar on human rights and humanitarian cooperation which was held in Moscow at the end of last year, the USSR ambassador noted that this event "bears witness to a rise in the level of the U.S.-Soviet political dialogue and cooperation on the most important issues". [passage omitted]

Yakovlev Addresses Soviet-U.S. Symposium

LD2406012489 Moscow TASS in English 1823 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 23 TASS—Soviet and American scientists, prominent politicians and public figures, and artistic personalities ended a meeting here today after several days of discussions on Western civilization's values.

They were addressed on the closing day by Aleksandr Yakovlev, a member of the Politburo and a secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee.

He said the symposium reflected new realities and positive shifts over recent years in East-West and Soviet-U.S. relations and in the world as a whole.

The interrelated and interdependent nature of the world and its contradictory integrity demand, among other things, that peoples know one another and different values and cultures to a much greater degree than before, Yakovlev continued.

The meaning of this getting to know and understand one another is not in imposing any values and notions on anybody. This would be both unrealistic and harmful, as well as very much futile.

The meaning and goal of intellectual exchanges is to find, indentify and stress whatever common there is that unites peoples and cultures in the universal values created and adopted by them before, Yakovlev said.

It is also in augmenting these values, increasing knowledge about them, developing them and taking advantage of them to work towards improvement in international affairs, he added.

This approach will make it possible to deliver the spiritual sphere of civilisation from fanaticism and intolerance, confrontation and primitivism, and deideologise interstate relations, leaving everyone committed to one's convictions and principles.

This approach, and it alone, will make it possible to use both differences and concurrences existing in the world's values and ideals as a source and incentive for cooperation and progress rather than as a factor for confrontation, Yakovlev said. But he added that objective contradictions of interests and views will, of course, continue to exist in the future as well.

Yakovlev told the symposium about changes pursued in the Soviet Union under the Communist Party's perestroyka policy and about the related significance of the first Congress of People's Deputies and its results.

He stressed that although perestroyka has not been going smoothly and a number of crisis phenomena in society have not yet been overcome, society is on the whole going through a process of cleansing and renewing social relations.

Like any other sharp turn, the Soviet one has been accompanied by various emotional flare-ups and sentiments. This is only natural and democratisation and glasnost have made it possible to openly express these feelings, Yakovlev said.

But it is essntial to look at these processes and assess them realistically, without yielding to the temptation to pass wishful thinking for reality but also without dismissing realities in favour of consoling illusions, he emphasised.

He then answered questions from Soviet and American participants in the meeting.

On Not Rejecting Each Other's Values

LD2406013689 Moscow TASS in English 2019 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 23 TASS—"The Soviet-American meeting of scientists, politicians and public figures on values of the Western civilisation reflected the positive changes that have taken place in the recent years in East-West relations, in relations between the USSR and the United States and in the whole world", said Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

Speaking at the meeting today, he emphasised that everything related to the culture of another country must be respected and that it should be studied. This is in keeping with the present stage of relations between the USSR and the United States whose essence, specifically, is the revision of dogmas and stereotypes so that they should not sound as ominously to the other side as in the past.

"We should also learn not to reject each other's values. But, on the other hand, this does not mean that they should be accepted without reservation", Yakovlev said. "If they are to be accepted, then this should be done on a democratic basis. The essence and purpose of intellectual exchanges is to find and emphasise the things that unite peoples and cultures on the basis of the common values they have created".

Addressing the meeting, American scientist Edward Lozanski suggested that Soviet-American educational centres be set up in Moscow and Washington. Yakovlev said this idea deserves to be studied.

Then Yakovlev had a brief conversation with Ernst Neizvestny, formerly a Soviet sculptor now living in the United States. Neizvestny said he would like to create in the Soviet Union a monument to victims of unjustified repressions and that he had already designed its model.

Robert Riley, member of the American Foreign Policy Council, said the American delegation was grateful to Aleksandr Yakovlev who had found time to meet with them. He said the meeting was held in the same atmosphere of openness in which the debating was conducted during the conference that lasted a week. Riley said this atmosphere is heartening and expressed the hope it would be preserved in Soviet-American relations.

Interviewed After Symposium

LD2406222289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] On completion of the Soviet-U.S. philosophical symposium, The Values of Western Civilization, which was held in Moscow from 18-23 June, Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yakovlev met with members of the U.S. delegation.

[Unidentified correspondent] In the course of the nearly week-long discussions, the guests did not so much defend their own values as try to penetrate the depths of our internal problems, and they often treated them from the standpoint of their constitution, their economy, their traditions, although they said much that was of value. I think that in the final analysis many of them understood that, yes, individual elements of Western models can and should be included in our new economic mechanism, but economic policy is not a technology for the production of one or another material that can be sold or handed over without payment. Still less are there ready prescriptions in social policy. This was one of the topics of conversation here in the hall of the Oktyabrskaya hotel. We will cite just one fragment of it, on a theme that is of great interest to the U.S. guests and that is of vital importance to us. [Video shows symposium in session, Yakovlev addressing participants.]

[Begin Yakovlev recording] I am not an economist, but the economists reply to me that a deficit economy cannot build a socialist market. Although I cannot give you a qualified reply, I think nevertheless that we still have to sort out what a deficit economy is, and if we are to keep to this point of view, then we will never progress to the development of a socialist market. The structure of the deficit economy is, after all, necessary to someone, and I have expressed my views on this today in PRAVDA, that also at issue here is the question of power. Some structures do not need this, especially not the market, but deficits are needed, because behind this there stands a certain power over something, the power of the department, the power of trade. For every deficit economy, as you will understand, creates a shadow, second economy. [end recording]

[Correspondent] This was said to the U.S. visitors by the Central Committee secretary, perhaps, just as frankly as it was to the workers of the AZLK [Lenin Komsomol Motor Vehicle Works, Moscow] several days ago, at the meeting in their house of culture. Well, this is not a secret; the braking mechanism exists, and every one of us can feel it. [Video cuts to following recorded interview with Yakovlev.]

[Begin recording] [Yakovlev] If we are serious, and I am convinced that we are taking a serious approach to this, to self-financing, to financial autonomy, to leasing, and to other forms of socialist economic relations, I think that a specific feature of socialist society in the case in point is actually being economically educated. In our country managerism is not enough; it is not enough just to be an administrator, because accounts are done differently, because profit is not just private, and capital is not private, but capital is collective. Imagine, say, this example. A collective leases a factory. It has certain relations with the state. It pays rent according to contractual prices. It makes a profit, money. The collective decides to build a second factory. Whose property is this? This is secondary property. What relations does this property enter into with the state? Of course, it will, but not on leasehold terms. It is a question. So it is the collective that will decide, but it has to be economically educated.

[Correspondent] During these meetings there were such moments when they simply preached to us: the market should operate like this, property should belong to the people and so on. I think that we will have, after all, to take our own road although we will have to take a great deal, too.

[Yakovlev] Quite correct. I really, very often sharpen my language and my arguments when they start to preach, as though mankind can be divided into those of full value and those not of full value. We all have to put an end to this ideology of dividing people; in the world we want to create on the basis of the new political thinking, we have to put an end to this. I have written in one of my articles somewhere, or I have said somewhere, that it is mostly arrogance that prevents people from building their relations. This concerns not only people, this concerns collectives, this concerns us, this concerns states, this concerns systems. [end recording]

China

PRC Has 'Deep Regret' Over Council Statement

LD2906200789 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Beijing June 29 TASS—Commenting on the "statement on China" adopted by the Council of Europe last Tuesday, Li Jinghua, the spokesman of the Chinese foreign ministry, said at a regular briefing here today that the Chinese Government cannot help expressing a deep regret over an unsubstantiated action by the Council of Europe. The council went at such lengths before finding out about the truth on the suppression of the counter-revolutionary mutiny in China that it hurriedly issued a statement on June 27 containing presumptuous accusations against China and took rash decisons which put into jeopardy bilateral relations.

The suppression by the government of the recent counter-revolutionary mutiny in Beijing, which was aimed at subverting the People's Republic of China, was implemented entirely within China's sovereign rights. The suppression was carried out in line with the constitution and law, Li Jinghua noted. Any attempt by any foreign government or any organisation to put pressure on the Chinese Government and to interfere in China's domestic affairs in some way or other is unreasonable and futile and can only bring harm to them.

The Chinese Government believes that far-sighted people in European countries will value our friendly relations (after learning the truth and facts about the events) which were established as a result of long-standing efforts and will stop the above fallacious practices.

PRC 'Anti-Corruption' Drive Reported

PM2906150189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Yu. Savenkov and IZVESTIYA press service reports under the general heading "China: Campaign Against Corruption"]

[Text] Beijing—The press has reported that China has initiated an intensive anticorruption campaign.

The CPC Central Committee plenum last week talked about the need to cure this disease and resolutely punish those guilty of corruption. As IZVESTIYA readers already know, there has long been dissatisfaction about the widespread corruption in society, including among party and administrative workers. The participants in the April-May student demonstrations also spoke out against corruption.

Over the past few days the mass media have been reporting many cases of corruption being uncovered and followed by severe punishments, including the death penalty. For instance, four people in the southern province of Guangdong have just been sentenced to death for smuggling and bribery. In Guangzhou, the administrative center of the province, two people—one of them a female staffer at the district police department—have also been sentenced to the supreme penalty for taking bribes amounting to 210,000 yuan over the course of 5 years. With the help of these bribes 60 people obtained the right to live in Guangzhou.

Ding Runming, deputy mayor of Anyang City, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO reports, was accused of using his position for personal ends. He demanded that a pharmaceuticals factory transfer 8,000 yuan to an industrial college's "scientific research fund." In actual fact this money was used to pay for his son's education. The money has been returned to the factory and Ding has repaid the college. The Ministry of Supervision has recommended that the guilty deputy mayor be removed from office.

Reports from many other provinces mention other cases of punishments for corruption and economic crimes. Many party workers and administrative employees figure among the accused. [The report is accompanied by the following IZVESTIYA press service report]

News agencies report from Beijing that Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, has made his first public statement since his ratification in this post. In the opinion of the REUTER correspondent, the speech made by the new CPC leader at a meeting in the capital with representatives of political and religious circles was distinguished by a certain moderation compared with recent statements by "hard-liners" in the Chinese leadership.

Jiang Zemin stressed the need to "continue working to finally suppress the counterrevolutionary revolt and put a stop to disturbances." He reaffirmed the Chinese authorities' position that the organizers of the student demonstrations cannot expect any leniency and will be held responsible for their actions in accordance with the full force of the law. At the same time, observers are noting, Jiang Zemin stated, that most of those involved in the counterrevolutionary movement were confused young people who did not need punishment so much as help and educational work.

AFP quotes extracts from a speech by another Chinese leader—Li Xiannian. He accused the recently replaced CPC Central Committee General Secretary Zhao Ziyang of having "to all intents and purposes supported" the demands made by the students in a spirit of "bourgeois liberalization."

According to reports received on the morning of 29 June, China has recalled all its ambassadors in foreign countries to Beijing for consultations. Agencies are assuming that this step has been taken in connection with the series of economic and political sanctions imposed against China by Western countries as a protest against the suppression of the student demonstrations.

REUTER reports that a group of U.S. Congressmen has prepared and will shortly submit to the House of Representatives a package of additional sanctions against the PRC. The legislators are planning to go considerably further than the discriminatory measures proposed by President Bush.

The Amnesty International organization has appealed to the international community to put pressure on the Chinese leadership to force it to observe human rights. Amnesty International is particularly concerned about the execution of arrested participants in the protest demonstrations. According to figures from the PRC authorities, 33 people involved in the student disturbances have already been shot in the past few days and around 1,800 arrested.

UPI reports that recent events in China have made the San Francisco authorities tear up the agreement twinning the city with Shanghai. All cultural and commercial events planned in San Francisco this year featuring Shanghai representatives have been shelved. Observers are drawing attention to the fact that the Chinese mass media continue to observe complete silence on the world reaction to the suppression of the student movement.

AFP has reported that the 23-year-old student Chai Ling, who headed the recent antigovernment demonstrations in Beijing and who is sought by the Chinese authorities as "state criminal number one," has managed to leave the country and is currently in Australia.

Li Peng Vows To Punish 'Small Handful' Only

PM2306112789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "China: Li Peng's Statement"]

[Text] Beijing, 22 Jun—The Chinese people believe that they will only really be able to put an end to poverty and backwardness if they proceed along the socialist path under the leadership of the CPC, Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, said at a meeting with Khumayun Khan, Pakistani Foreign Ministry foreign secretary.

The head of the Chinese Government said that "the counterrevolutionary revolt in Beijing had deep, underlying internal and international causes. The problem is that there are people both within the country and abroad who do not like China's socialist system and the CPC leadership." "A small handful of criminals will be punished under the law. However, the government will be lenient toward most people who have acknowledged their involvement in the marches, demonstrations, sit-ins, and hunger strikes and even those who expressed extremist views," Li Peng said.

The State Council premier pointed out that the Chinese Government is stable. It can suppress the rebellion and stabilize the situation.

When China experiences temporary difficulties, Li Peng went on to say, you can see clearly who are its true friends and who are its sham friends. At present certain countries are exerting diplomatic and economic pressure on China and trying to interfere in its internal affairs.

XINHUA announced that seven people were sentenced to death by the municipal court and executed in Beijing today. They were accused of setting fire to military trucks, misappropriating military consignments, and slaughtering People's Liberation Army soldiers. According to the agency, three people were executed yesterday in Shanghai. They were charged, XINHUA indicates, with "creating serious disturbances" on a railroad crossing near Shanghai station. Other people involved in the case have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Li Peng Rebuttal of Western 'Pressure' Cited

PM2306145389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS, IZVESTIYA Press Service reports under general heading "Concerning the Internal Situation in China"]

[Text] Beijing, 22 Jun—The Chinese people believe that they will really manage to put an end to poverty and backwardness only if they follow the socialist path under the CPC's leadership, Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, declared at a meeting with Khumayun Khan, secretary for foreign affairs at Pakistan's Foreign Ministry.

The Chinese government, the premier of the State Council noted, is stable. It is capable of stifling the revolt and stabilizing the situation. To all intents and purposes, Beijing has now basically returned to normal life. The situation in the country has also stabilized.

Whenever China experiences temporary difficulties, Li Peng went on to say, it is clearly visible who are its genuine and who are its alleged friends. At present some countries are exerting diplomatic and economic pressure on China, trying to interfere in its internal affairs. This is a shortsighted and unwise position.

"China will continue to develop relations with other countries on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. I am optimistic about the PRC's future," Li Peng said. He emphasized the immutability of the policy of reforms and openness being implemented by the PRC.

The newspaper RENMIN RIBAO published a notification by the PRC Supreme Court demanding that the country's justice organs administration "promptly institute proceedings under the law against counterrevolutionary elements and criminals who engaged in counterrevolutionary insurgency and organized public disturbances." The notification speaks of the importance of broad coverage of trial proceedings by radio, television, and the press for the purpose of "intensifying the social effect, frightening off criminal elements, and mobilizing the masses for struggle against counterrevolutionaries and malicious criminals." [end of TASS dispatch]

Foreign news agency correspondents accredited in Beijing quote local radio and Central Television in reports saying that the sentence passed by Shanghai City People's Court on three persons charged with "creating disturbances" has been carried out.

A few days earlier they were sentenced to death for damaging a railroad train, setting fire to police motorcycles, and obstructing firemen fighting the fire. The sentence was carried out after their appeal for clemency was turned down. According to the news agencies, radio reports pointed out that "the facts established in the course of the initial investigation are clear, the evidence is conclusive, and there can be no doubt about the establishment of their guilt and the degree of punishment..."

Quoting a XINHUA report, REUTER reports from Beijing that seven "rioters" were executed in Beijing, having been charged with "committing acts of violence while the Army was suppressing demonstrations" in the capital.

The REUTER correspondent reports that, despite the West's negative response to the executions in China, Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, let it be understood that China will not give in to pressure from the West on questions which, in his opinion, "are China's internal affairs."

Moscow TV on Arrest of Taiwan 'Agents' in PRC

LD2506180589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 25 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Agents of the Taiwanese special services have been arrested in China. Our correspondent V. Kulikov, has the details.

[Kulikov] Despite a normalization of the situation in China, the military authorities' prohibitions upon journalists' activity continue. As before, Chinese television is virtually the only channel of video information for many television journalists. The evening news broadcasts on Beijing television began with these pictures. Our state security organs, the newsreader is saying, have uncovered a number of crimes by Taiwanese Kuomintang agents, and they have seized material evidence of their criminal activity. Wang Zhanghun, 38 years old, is one of those arrested. The television announcer is enumerating his crimes—instigation in the creation of anti-government organizations and propaganda in favor of overthrowing the Communist Party. These pictures, taken by a concealed camera, depict individual moments of this activity. Wang admits on screen that he had regular contacts with Taiwan, from where he would get tasks, money, communications equipment, and arms.

This is Shanghai. Here, says the presenter, five Kuomintang special agents have been detained. Chu Lin is one of them. He made use of the situation to take part in the student movement and to report on its results. He had on him such an order from the Taiwanese special services.

Southern China, Guangdong province. Name: Gao Xiaoshi. Code number 61-42. Task: Similar to that of his colleagues rendered harmless in Beijing and Shanghai; to take an active part in the student movement, to whip up antisocialist feelings, and call for a struggle against the Communist Party of China.

The pictures transmitted by Beijing television must confirm the idea that is being actively made current by the mass media of China: The events that have taken place in the country were born not only of the Chinese micro-climate, but foreign forces also took part in them, which had no interest in Chinese society following the path of reforms and socialist development. [Video shows pictures from Chinese television of soldiers searching out criminals, televised confessions and evidence, and pictures of demonstrations.]

Beijing International Fair Highlighted

LD2406225789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 24 Jun 89

[From the "International Diary" program with Nikolay Agayants]

[Text] Now over to Albert Papayan, our Beijing correspondent:

[Papayan] The first international fair in the Chinese capital will open in Beijing, as planned, on 14 July. It is the greatest one ever held in the country. Great importance is attached to the event here. In addition to the goals normally pursued by functions of this kind, the Beijing fair aims to show the outside world that China intends to continue its policy of openness and reform. Speaking at a press-conference, (Wu Funchun), the director of the Chinese international exhibition complex, expressed the hope that the Beijing international fair, which will be held every other year, will become an important meeting place for representatives of business circles from different countries. Despite the recent disturbances in Beijing and in other cities, he added, not one of the expected participants in the forthcoming fair had withdrawn. Representatives of 29 countries and regions, including the Soviet Union, France, Canada, the United States and Denmark, are expected to take part in the Beijing fair. More than 1,800 Chinese businessmen will also take part in the work of the fair. (Wu Funchun) stated that public order had been restored in Beijing and in the other cities. Rail, land, and water traffic had resumed. The samples and exhibits of the overseas participants in the fair will therefore be delivered to the complex in good time, as they arrive at their destination in China.

Today's press also quotes Zhang Baifa, deputy mayor of Beijing, as saying that the 11th Asian games in Beijing will be held at the due time and with greater success than all the previous ones, thanks to the joint efforts of all building workers and with the support and assistance of individuals within the country and overseas. Zhang Baifa is also deputy chairman of the organizing committee of the 11th Asian games, and he stated that during the 456 days that remain before the opening of the games 30,000 building workers will be working hard in order to make good the losses inflicted upon building progress by the disorders that have taken place and the counterrevolutionary uprising.

As has been the case during each of the past few days, the newspapers, television, and radio have been reporting today that executions that are continuing in various towns of participants in the recent events. There are also reports of the arrest in Beijing, Shanghai and the province of Guangdona of a whole group of Taiwanese secret agents who have had a hand in the student demonstrations and disorders. A report by the Ministry of State [words indistinct] that the Kuomintang secret services in Taiwan had assigned their agents in China the task of using the so-called democratic movement for the purpose of turning it into an all-embracing anti-communist movement and collecting information for the Taiwanese secret services.

Northeast Asia

Nikonov Begins Official Visits to DPRK, Mongolia

LD2506183589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1635 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 25 Jun (TASS)—Viktor Nikonov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today left Moscow. Following invitations from the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, he will pay official visits to the DPRK and the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR].

Among those seeing him off were Kwon Hui-Kyong, ambassador of the DPRK, and Nyam-Osoryn Dagvadorj, charge d'affaires ad interim of the MPR to the USSR. [Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 25 June in its "Vremya" newscast reports Politburo Member Nikonov's departure for the DPRK and Mongolia. The television report adds that Nikonov was seen off at the airport by Viktor Chebrikov and other officials.]

Delegation Arrives in DPRK

LD2906085189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0745 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Pyongyang, 29 Jun (TASS)—A CPSU Central Committee delegation, led by Viktor Nikonov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in the DPRK capital today on an official visit at the invitation of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee.

The delegation was met at the airport by Ho Tam, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, So Kwan-hui, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and other officials. The welcoming party included G.G. Bartoshevich, USSR ambassador to the DPRK.

Nikonov Addresses Reception

PM3060954 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 1989 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report: "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 29 June 29—A CPSU delegation, led by Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee Secretary Viktor Nikonov, has arrived on an official visit here today at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK].

On the same day the delegation made a tour of Pyongyang where the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students will open on July 1. In the evening the Central Committee of the WPK gave a reception in honour of the CPSU delegation.

Speaking at the reception, the party Central Committee secretary So Kwan-hui cordially greeted the visit of representatives of Soviet communists in the DPRK. The traditional Korean-Soviet friendship, he said, is developing and getting stronger day by day. The historic meeting in 1986 between Comrades Kim Il-song and Mikhail Gorbachev became an important milestone in furthering Korean-Soviet relations in keeping with the demands of the present situation.

We consider that the strengthening of the ties of Korean-Soviet friendship will contribute to accelerating the pace of socialist construction in our countries and strengthening the forces of socialism as a whole. Today the fraternal Soviet people, under the CPSU's leadership, are conducting an energetic struggle to implement the decisions of the 27th party congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference. The recent USSR Congress of People's Deputies demonstrated the desire of the CPSU, the Soviet Government, and people to comprehensively develop and deepen restructuring in all fields of life of Soviet society. We wish the Soviet Union still greater successes in the struggle to increase the might of the country, in the name of the triumph of the cause of socialism and communism. We express full support and solidarity with the active and responsible efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet Government to preserve peace and security in the world.

At present our people, rallied firmly around Comrades Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, are engaged in an active struggle for the implementation of the decisions of the Sixth WPK Congress and recent party Central Committee plenums.

Referring to the situation in Korea, the speaker said that eliminating tensions and safeguarding peace on the Korean peninsula are priority tasks in the struggle for independent and peaceful unification of the country. He expressed gratitude to the CPSU and to the government and people of the Soviet Union for their support and solidarity in this endeavour.

In his response statement Viktor Nikonov cordially thanked the WPK Central Committee for the invitation to visit the DPRK. Our visit, he said, is a continuation of the good and mutually advantageous tradition that has evolved between the leaderships of the two parties.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo attaches enormous significance to the exchange of experience in the fraternal parties' activity and the diversity of forms and means of building socialism. We have come to the DPRK to study your party's work in implementing its agrarian policy.

It is highly noteworthy that the CPSU delegation's visit is beginning on the eve of the opening of a prestigious youth forum—the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students. We wholeheartedly wish the Pyongyang festival success; the ideals of peace, friendship, and solidarity are depicted on its banners.

Two weeks ago the USSR Congress of People's Deputies completed its deliberations in Moscow. The congress became a major political landmark in the life of the Soviet people, of the whole society. The discussions at the congress, seen and heard by the Soviet people on tv and radio reflected everything of concern to our people, the most urgent problems of social development.

The congress unambiguously pronounced itself in favour of consistently implementing the radical reform of the economic and political systems. The Congress of People's Deputies demonstrated that restructuring has no alternative.

Based on the new political thinking, the USSR Congress of People's Deputies approved the principles of home and foreign policy of the Soviet state for the coming years. In international affairs our country will be guided by the premise that its security must be safeguarded above all by political means as an integral component of universal and equal security, that nuclear arms must be liquidated, that the threat or use of force are inadmissible in the attainment of any political, economic, or other objectives, that, rather than confrontation, dialogue and negotiations to achieve a balance of interests must become the only means of solving international problems and settling conflicts. The Soviet economy must become an organic part of the world economy under conditions of mutual benefit and equality. The Soviet Union has undertaken to strictly abide by these principles in its foreign policy.

The CPSU Central Committee leadership pays much attention to developing relations between the CPSU and the WPK, between the USSR and the DPRK, to improving these relations, filling them with new content, developing new forms of cooperation, and drawing the broad segments of people of the two countries into these links. Such development is consonant with agreements reached between Comrades Gorbachev and Kim Il-song during their meetings in October 1986.

In conclusion V.P. Nikonov expressed sincere gratitude for the warm, comradely reception and the attention accorded to the CPSU delegation.

Soviet-Mongolian Consultations on Consular Issues

PM2206101689 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 89 Moscow Evening Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet-Mongolian Consultations"]

[Text] Under the plan for cooperation, Soviet-Mongolian consultations on consular issues were held in Moscow 14-16 June.

In the course of the consultations delegations from the USSR Foreign Ministry and Mongolian Foreign Ministry consular administrations exchanged opinions on the fulfillment of the existing Soviet-Mongolian consular agreements, examined questions of simplifying the conditions for reciprocal trips by citizens without visas and preventing instances of dual citizenship, and discussed the prospects for further cooperation in the consular sphere.

The Mongolian delegation was received by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister B.N. Chaplin and had a talk at the USSR Foreign Ministry.

Near East & South Asia

Gorbachev Receives Moroccan Foreign Minister

PM3006100089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 1989 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report on Secretary General Gorbachev's 29 June meeting with Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali; "M.S. Gorbachev's Reception of A. Filali, Representative of the Committee of Three on Lebanon"]

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev received in the Kremlin today Morocco's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali as a representative of the Committee of Three formed by the pan-Arab summit in Casablanca and the holder of the mandate to find a settlement formula for Lebanon. The committee includes King Hassan II of Morocco, President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Abdellatif Filali conveyed to Mikhail Gorbachev messages of greetings from the committee leaders who regard this meeting with Gorbachev as a new important stage in the development of Soviet relations with the Arab states of which they they are the leaders.

Filali described the situation in Lebanon: It is deteriorating daily. Having presented the committee's request to support its activity and especially to use the USSR's close relations with friendly Arab states—in the first place Syria and Iraq—as well as its position of a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, for an early settlement of the tragic conflict.

Gorbachev praised the creation of the Committee of Three of the League of Arab States as a testimony to the seriousness of the intentions of the Arab world to find a settlement to the crisis in Lebanon. The settlement is possible only through accommodating the security interests of all the region's states without exception, in the first place, of course, of the interests of the Lebanese people itself, on the basis of a balance of the Arab and more general, international interests. Gorbachev saw the appeal of the Committee of Three as a sign of confidence in the Soviet Union and its policy.

We agree in principle, Gorbachev said, with the approaches by which the committee intends to be guided and which we understand as follows: territorial integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon and its membership in the United Nations; national reconciliation which would be very much assisted by a constitutional reform; accomodation of the interests of different parties to the conflict; the search for compromise solutions in the process of a political settlement and the need to create a congenial environment for this; unacceptability of military methods and above all—an immediate ceasefire. In short, the Soviet Union supports the mission of the Committee of Three. It is prepared to engage in regular contacts with them with the view to an early normalisation in Lebanon.

Gorbachecv told Filali that contacts may be established in the near future with the leaderships of Iraq and Syria in order to discuss among other issues, that of Lebanon. Gorbachev told his interlocutor about his intention to also discuss this with President Francois Mitterand during the coming visit to France.

Gorbachev drew Filali's attention to the fact that the Lebanese crisis had to be considered within the context of an overal Middle East settlement. There are now possibilities to place the crisis on the road to a realistic solution. And it is important not to miss a favorable chance.

Gorbachev deemed it necessary to reiterate that the Soviet Union's attitude to the Arab world remained unchanged and that its policy consistently took account of Arab interests. The USSR's sincere efforts to help the Palestinian people realise its legitimate aspirations also remained unchanged.

Addressing Abdellatif Filali as foreign minister of Morocco, the relations with which the Soviet Union treasures, Mikhail Gorbachev asked him to convey his greetings to King Hassan II. Filali transmitted to Gorbachev the king's invitation to visit Morocco. Gorbachev expressed the hope that his desire to come to Morocco and to that important area of the world in general would come true.

Present were Comrade Shevardnadze, 'Ali Denushta [name as transliterated], director of the Minister of Foreign Affairs' Office, and Moroccan Ambassador Rafik Haddoui.

Afghanistan's Wakil on U.S. Rebel Decision

LD3006025089 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] The Hague June 29 TASS—Visiting Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil said in the Hague that the United States decision to appoint a special representative to the so-called "transitional government" of Afghan rebels formed in Pakistan violates the Geneva accords.

He also said that the U.S. decision on this "puppet government formed abroad" represents a "gross violation of norms of international relations and universally recognised norms of international law". One hundred and twenty-five military centres to train armed extremists still exist in Pakistan and they are constantly being supplied with modern arms and ammunition. The 11th and 18th Pakistani regular Army divisions and Saudi Arabian mercenaries have taken part in extremist attacks on the cities of Qandahar, Khowst and Jalalabad, Wakil said.

Afghanistan's Wakil Stops Over in Moscow

LD3006024889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] 'Abdul Wakil, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, has arrived in Moscow. He is returning to Kabul from the Hague, where he took part in the Nonaligned Movement Peace and International Law conference.

Departs for Kabul

LD3006082689 Moscow TASS in English 0759 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 30 TASS—Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil left Moscow for Kabul today after stopping over en route from The Hague. He was seen off at the airport by Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Chaplin and the Afghan ambassador to the USSR, Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy.

Soviet POW Committee Visits Pakistan

PM2906132589 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[Ye. Aleksandrov report: " 'We Are Not Losing Hope.' A Delegation From the People's Committee for the Liberation of Soviet Servicemen Is Visiting Pakistan"]

[Text] Islamabad—Hope. That word in Russian, English, and Urdu has not left Pakistani newspapers for several days. That is the brief name given to the delegation from the People's Committee for the Liberation of Soviet Servicemen Captured By the Armed Opposition in Afghanistan. The delegation comprises eight people in all—three mothers and a father of missing soldiers and four committee activists, a TASS correspondent in Islamabad tells SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. But they represent many, many hundreds of parents and relatives who are carrying on a dogged search for their sons, brothers, and grandsons who failed to return from Afghanistan, in the hope of helping get them out of jail.

...The delegation's first press conference on Pakistani soil. The mothers' tearstained eyes, the father's hands trembling with nervous tension. The following words were heard: "We want to believe they are alive. We will ask the Pakistani Government and 'mujahidin' leaders to show them mercy and humanity. For we mothers did not bear our children for war. We never wanted it." The journalists present hurriedly noted down the names of their sons: Yevgeniy Gorbunov; Vadim Krylov; Konstantin Gabarayev, and Vadim Smirnov. Of course, the delegation will try to liberate all those who are in the hands of the armed opposition. There are detailed lists and a large number of photographs have been collected.

The press conference was followed by a warmhearted reception organized by the leadership of the Pakistani-Soviet Friendship Society in honor of the committee members. In the speech delivered by Khalid Wahid, the society's chairman, you could sense unfeigned sympathy, compassion, and a desire to do what he could to help.

The delegation members spoke very warmly about Pakistani Television, whose leadership has ordered extensive coverage of their trip and also agreed to prepare a special program showing all available photographs of the missing Soviet servicemen.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan has also promised to give the committee members all possible aid. At the same time he asked them to take into consideration the fact that there are no Soviet soldiers on Pakistani territory and that his country's leadership cannot simply order the 'mujahidin' to liberate their prisoners.

The delegation, of course, pinned their greatest hopes on their visit to Peshawar, where they had an opportunity to meet the leaders of the armed opposition. The trip was organized by Pakistan's Foreign Ministry, which also took trouble to ensure the Soviet people's safety during their stay in the city, where the headquarters of all the main groupings in the Afghan antigovernment forces are concentrated. It proved possible to meet Sebqatollah Mojaddedi, "president of the provisional government of Afghanistan," Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who occupies the post of foreign minister in this "government," and also Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, "chairman of the Supreme Court."

The delegation members' requests for mercy and the release of our imprisoned soldiers—since Soviet troops have long since left Afghan territory—met with the response that the 'mujahidin' are also concerned for the fate of their supporters who are in Afghan jails. It was stated here that there are approximately 40,000 of the latter and some are allegedly even in the Soviet Union. According to the opposition leaders, an acceptable option is for all Soviet servicemen and soldiers from the Afghan Government troops in the hands of the 'mujahidin" to be exchanged for the jailed opponents of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Government.

...The first week of their stay in Pakistan has ended for the delegation from the People's Committee for the Liberation of Soviet Servicemen. They still have many meetings ahead with the Pakistani leadership and that country's public, along with more trips to Peshawar. According to the delegation members, they have not abandoned hope of success. I would like to wish from the bottom of my heart that these hopes are fulfilled.

Rebel Shelling of Jalalabad, Khowst Noted

LD2806095189 Moscow TASS in English 0913 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul June 28 TASS—By TASS correspondent Andrey Greshnov:

Extremist gangs again brought under heavy artillery fire in the past 24 hours the cities of Jalalabad and Khowst, as well as a number of populated localities in the Province of Paktia, as a result of which four people were killed and five wounded. Apartment houses were damaged and a mosque destroyed.

Jalalabad garrison units dealt missile and artillery blows at rebels' positions and put out of action about 140 of them. The casualties included 12 Pakistani servicemen and seven mercenaries from Middle East countries. An operation for routing a gang that terrorised the local population was staged in the province of Badakhshan. The enemy lost 26 men.

Bloody clashes between anti-government groups of different political orientations are going on in various parts of the country. Especially fierce clashes take place between detachments of the "Islamic Alliance of Afghanistan" led by Burhanuddin Rabbani and the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the BAKHTAR news agency reports. During clashes in the province of Faryab 54 people were killed on both sides and some 50 wounded. "Fighters For the Purity of Islam" lost 18 people killed and 19 wounded during the division of spheres of influence in the provinces of Parvan and Takhar. Fierce fighting between extremists also took place in the provinces of Herat, Balkh, Nuristan, in the environs of the cities of Jalalabad and Chaghcharan.

According to reports reaching here, a group of 26 men voluntarily laid down arms and went over to the side of people's power in the province of Ghowr.

The Afghan Foreign Ministry sent to the U.N. Good Offices Mission another three notes citing new facts of gross violation of the Geneva Accords by Pakistan.

Afghan Rebels Fail To Secure Objectives

PM2906133589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jun 89 Morning Edition p4

[Review by Yevg. Bay and A. Greshnov under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "Talks in Progress on Releasing Prisoners of War"]

[Text] Moscow, Kabul—According to reports from Islamabad, the sides have reached a consensus on some issues at the fourth round of talks being held in the Pakistani capital between representatives of the Soviet Embassy and the Afghan armed opposition on the question of releasing Soviet servicemen taken prisoner in Afghanistan by antigovernment forces. In particular, the armed opposition delegation has declared its willingness to allow representatives of the International Red Cross Committee to see Soviet servicemen held by the mujahidin. At the meeting the Soviet side announced its agreement to consider the opposition members' proposal to exchange all Soviet soldiers and officers held captive in Afghanistan for mujahidin taken prisoner on Afghan territory.

Our country previously announced that the fate of 310 men missing in action is still unknown. However, according to an AP correspondent in Islamabad, who quoted a spokesman for the mujahidin, the opposition is holding only 50-75 Soviet soldiers. At the same time, the mujahidin claim that some 40,000 members of the opposition have disappeared without a trace in Afghanistan.

While making efforts to secure the release of our prisoners of war, the Soviet Union is taking steps to reach an agreement with the United States that would commit both countries to terminating arms supplies to the opposing sides. According to a REUTER correspondent in Kabul, the Soviet ambassador to Afghanistan, Yu.M. Vorontsov, said in an interview with the agency that

Moscow intends to propose the conclusion of such an agreement at the U.S.-Soviet talks on Afghanistan due to be held in Moscow 31 July-1 August.

As is well known, in December last year from the UN rostrum M.S. Gorbachev called for an end to arms supplies to the warring sides in Afghanistan.

Having received fresh consignments of arms, the rebels have recently stepped up their shelling of Afghan cities, a TASS correspondent told us on the telephone. On Tuesday, four people were killed and seven injured in Kabul by exploding rocket projectiles. They are continuing to shell Jalalabad, which is already half in ruins. It has just been learned that subunits from the Jalalabad Garrison, with air support, counterattacked the rebel positions. Among those killed were 12 Pakistani servicemen and 7 mercenaries from Near Eastern countries.

Seen from Kabul, the war in Afghanistan is becoming drawn out. The country is being split into a vast number of regions controlled by different opposition groups. Far from all of them are fighting the government—many are fighting amongst themselves. Their aim is to win power at the local level and expand their sphere of influence. Reports come in every day of how, as a result of clashes between Khalis and Hekmatyar detachments, dozens of people are dying in the provinces of Ghazni and Paktia, while clashes are also taking place in other of the country's provinces—Herat and Balkh. The conflict in Afghanistan is gradually assuming the features of the Lebanese conflict, and this is fraught with unpredictable consequences for all the Afghan people.

A considerable number of reports and analytical items on the situation in Afghanistan have recently appeared in the American press. Thirty interviews with the people of Kabul have shown that the Afghans believe that the United States is meddling in Afghan affairs and prolonging the war, according to a report published in THE WASHINGTON POST 27 June. It was impossible not to see the anger of Kabul's inhabitants, who, without the presence of government officials, spoke freely of the incessant shelling of their city, THE WASHINGTON POST correspondent emphasized.

According to UPI, a U.S. Administration spokesman told a correspondent that in February this year U.S. intelligence services reached the conclusion that the present Kabul government would be overthrown within 6-12 months of the last Soviet soldier leaving the country. "Evidently this task now appears more complex," the official said. "Things are going better for the Kabul regime than predicted."

With the help of an unexpected combination of 1960's weapons—Scud tactical missiles and Antonov propeller-driven cargo aircraft—Afghan Government armed forces have unexpectedly gained the upper hand over the mujahidin and their 1980's weapons—U.S. Stinger missiles—WASHINGTON POST correspondent D. Ottaway wrote. The Scud missiles have had a demoralizing effect on the rebels. Moreover, the Afghan Air Force is using An-12 aircraft, which can drop bombs from altitudes beyond the range of the Stinger missiles. The majority of U.S. officials believes that the fighting this summer will be critical. It will possibly determine whether the United States and Pakistan change their tactics and begin to put pressure on the opposition forces by demanding a political compromise with the Kabul government.

Governor Says Qandahar Safe From Mujahidin

PM2806155389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[Special correspondent A. Lukyanov dispatch: "Qandahar: 1 Year On. PAYAM Interview With the Province's Governor General"]

[Text] Kabul, 27 Jun—The conversation between Colonel General Nurulhaq 'Ulumi, head of the Qandahar administration, and PAYAM's correspondent is interesting not only in itself but also from the viewpoint of the development of events in that Afghan province. For the withdrawal of our troops from Afghanistan began right there—it was completed in full in Qandahar approximately 1 year ago. Therefore the interview makes it possible to sum up definitely—Qandahar 1 year after our troop pullout.

N. 'Ulumi pointed out that the people of Qandahar are now defending their land courageously, shoulder to shoulder with subunits of the armed forces. People are confident that they have chosen the correct path and actively support the policy of national reconciliation. They have realized that the opposition leaders in Peshawar have essentially become Pakistan's mercenaries. And the "transitional government" created by them in Rawalpindi has no program apart from plans for new destruction.

Governor General 'Ulumi told Afghan journalists that approximately 3 months ago the rebels significantly stepped up their actions in Qandahar with the support of their Pakistani patrons. Their attacks are continuing to this day. The mujahidin's chief efforts are now aimed at shelling the city. They are also seeking to block the roads and to cut delivery routes for essential goods to Qandahar. However, according to N. 'Ulumi, the "intransigents'" plans are failing in Qandahar. The mujahidin are incurring considerable losses.

The city is now supplied with everything necessary. Stores and markets are open. Economic ties are gradually being restored between the province's administrative center and rural regions, as well as many regions of Helmand, Oruzgan, Farah, Herat, and Badghis Provinces. Despite the shelling, refugees are returning to their homes from abroad. Not even the obstacles erected by the Pakistani authorities stop them. As many as 120 or more families are arriving in Qandahar every day. They are beginning to engage in farming, horticulture, and livestock raising. State organs are helping them.

Contacts are gradually expanding between the provincial authorities and the population. National reconciliation commissions are operating. Meanwhile, the governor general continued, the Pakistani authorities have put up posters on their territory with threats addressed to Afghan refugees, while the police, the gendarmerie, and armed forces subunits are doing everything possible to prevent them returning to the motherland. However, it is very difficult to halt this flow. In Chaman alone there are now more than 600 families ready to return home.

Pakistani soldiers, the interviewee went on to point out, take away all the returning refugees' goods and chattels. Eyewitnesses say that indignation at the policy of the Pakistani administration and the leaders of the "alliance of seven" has reached the limit in the refugee camps.

There is documentary evidence, the governor general of Qandahar continued, that the leaders of the "alliance of seven" have repeatedly demanded that the Pakistani Government take measures to prevent the refugees' return to Afghanistan. Otherwise, their potential for "drafting" young people into their formations will very soon be completely exhausted. Contrary to the Geneva agreements, the Pakistani authorities have given in to these demands and taken a number of illegal measures. The majority of the population of the refugee camps believes that the rebels' actions today are not a "jihad" but a killing of Muslims by Muslims.

Mutual understanding between the authorities and the residents is quite strong now in Qandahar, 'Ulumi pointed out. This is evidenced by the population's assistance in bringing rebels to light and exposing them. There are people among us who are not on the government's side but do not participate in bandit actions either. They can come freely to their families in the city. This policy has yielded positive results. The number of people getting accustomed to a peaceful life is increasing day by day.

This is happening, the Qandahar governor general continued, because the mujahidin are increasingly isolating themselves from the population by their actions. And he cited a specific example. When the Pakistani administration and the rebels announced a major reward for destroying the dam at Dakhla [name as transliterated] in the name of the "jihad," even many of their supporters realized that this was a crime against the people of Afghanistan. The plan was decisively rejected.

Returning to an analysis of the military situation in the province, Col Gen N. 'Ulumi pointed out that the "intransigents" have made repeated attacks on the city and the adjacent regions, as well as on the positions of government troops. But all their attacks were repulsed. Approximately 1 week ago the rebels once again undertook an attack from this direction. However, they were routed in the space of 2 and ½ days and incurred losses—more than 400 people killed and injured. N. 'Ulumi pointed out in conclusion that all patriotic forces are participating in the common struggle against the enemy. Their morale is high. In his opinion, the opposition will be unable to "take" Qandahar.

U.S. Both 'Promotes, Hinders' Mideast Peace

TA2806192089 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1630 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] Daniel Inouye, U.S. Senate Appropriation Committee chairman, has completed his meetings with Prime Minister Shamir and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. His talks encompassed various aspects of the U.S. aid to the Jewish state, and the expansion of strategic and trade cooperation. Inouye also paid a visit to Alfe Menashe, where he said that everything he encountered in that settlement absolutely negates what he termed the distorted picture presented by the media.

This was the first visit of a U.S. congressman to a settlement. Until now, visiting U.S. statesmen abstained from visiting such places. This was because of the stand of the U.S. Administration that the establishment of Israeli settlements in the territories is an obstacle to the achievement of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. Has this stand undergone a change? Yes and no. Yes, because Daniel Inouye is an important figure in the U.S. establishment, and his visit was an official one. He conducted important negotiations with members of the Israeli leadership with whom he discussed dozens of joint projects in the sphere of civil and defense construction. He promised that U.S. aid to Israel would be kept at the annual level of $3 billion: $1.2 billion for development, and the rest for defense purposes. In this context his very visit to Alfe Menashe, and even more so the appreciation he voiced for the Israeli Government's colonial efforts in the territories, reflect the willingness to participate in one way or another in the financing of the settlement project.

Several days ago, the Arab League appealed to the U.S. Administration to exert pressure on Israel to stop settlement in the territories. Senator Daniel Inouye replied with a resounding no. There is, however, nothing new in the U.S. attitude to the issue of settlement in the territories. What is present is a certain degree of legitimacy bestowed on a policy to which the administration has adhered for many years. Because, after all, who financed the establishment of the 160 settlements beyond the Green Line? Who financed the voluminous construction in the new quarters of East Jerusalem? It is a known fact that the annual expenditure for construction and infrastructure in the settlements is between $200 and $250 million. Where does this money come from? Part of it comes from U.S. aid. The administration knows, but keeps silent. A still bigger part comes from the donations of U.S. businessmen. The administration acknowledges these donations as apolitical, allowing the donors tax deductions.

From the point of view of formal logic, all this seems to be a paradox. The U.S. Administration sees settlements as an obstacle to peace in the Middle East and promises to spare no effort to bring about a settlement in the region. At the same time, it promotes the settlement drive in various ways. So much for formal logic. In fact, what we are witnessing is logic of a different kind, one according to which the car driver steps simultaneously on the accelerator and the brakes. The administration both promotes the political process and hinders it. How? Washington has, for instance, acted toward the promotion of Israel's peace plan, which—though characterized by both positive and negative sides—is worthy of a profound discussion and serious consideration. And what did Washington do? First, it called on Israel to show flexibility; after that, it supported the clarifications of Shamir and Arens, which divested the peace plan of any tangible content.

The same is true with regard to the issue of settlements in the territories. Although administration figures condemn the establishment of new settlements, the administration continues indirectly financing them. To compound the picture, Senator Inouye comes along saying that the settlements' negative image is a distortion, and that in fact the devil is not as bad as all that. Inouye also said in Jerusalem: A strong Israel supported by the United States is a guarantee for peace in the Middle East. These words, too, are a paradox. Israel has been strong for a very long time, and the United States has supported it for many years, but there is still no peace.

But—do not worry, there is no paradox in any of this. The U.S. stand toward the Middle East is very consistent. As far as the United States is concerned, peace is a situation which does not endanger its strategic interests in the region, even at the cost of continuing and exacerbated tension. In the U.S. opinion, the war of attrition between Israel and the Palestinians is not a war. They accept it completely. Furthermore, as long as the war in the territories continues, the administration mediates between Israel and the Arabs, benefiting from both worlds.

Greetings to Bangladesh Party Leader Noted

PM2706105989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 June 89 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee greetings message: "To Comrade Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, general secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh Central Committee"]

[Text] Dear Comrade Manik!

We cordially congratulate you on your 50th birthday. We wish you good health and successes in your activity for the sake of peace and your country's independent and democratic development.
[Signed]CPSU Central Committee

Sub-Saharan Africa

Opening of Summit on Angola Noted

EA2406164689 Moscow International Service in Amharic 1530 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] A number of African governments are attending a meeting at Gbadolite in north western Zaire, on ways of solving the internal conflict in Angola.

It is to be recalled that representatives of African countries discussed the situation in Angola [words indistinct]. This time more participants are attending than previously. However, there is talk of disagreement over the participation of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] delegation [words indistinct]. The stand taken by the participants is more or less known. The Central Committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-Labor Party, at its recent regular session, stated that the solution to Angola's internal conflict is a policy that is reflected in the document it approved. The document points out that the solution to Angola's internal conflict lies in a policy of national reconciliation, [word indistinct], and legislation on amnesty. For their part, Savimbi's forces are striving to secure equal status for UNITA with the MPLA during the negotiations by delaying [words indistinct].

The governments of the five African Portuguese-speaking countries will participate in the meeting. It is to be recalled that in 1975, these countries were established, resulting in a shift in the balance of power in the African Continent in favor of the progressive and democratic forces. Now, attempts to change the balance of forces in Angola through the use of UNITA are being made. Even so, I do not think that UNITA will be considered a strong political organization but rather a puppet. We have not forgotten the events of last year.

In his summer tour of Western European countries last year, Jonas Savimbi (?did not express a desire for peace) during his visits to the FRG, UK, France, and Portugal. Therefore, the tour was a complete failure. It is also not forgotten that the internal conflict in UNITA has gone from bad to worse. Jonas Savimbi was only encouraged by a message sent to him by Bush. News we received from (?Namibia) reveals that UNITA forces are carrying Namibian citizenship identification cards and are engaged in a struggle with the Southwest African People's Organization. It it well known that UNITA forces want to participate in the elections in Namibia. It is no secret whom they will support in the elections. In other words, UNITA has served in the past as a force of aggression of the Portuguese colonialists and has confirmed that it is ready to support the South African racists voluntarily.

I do not think it is a coincidence that rumors are circulating to the effect that Jonas Savimbi will flee to a friendly country. Anyone who is familiar with the official statements Savimbi issues on Angola, will find it hard to believe that Savimbi has suddenly become holy. Although the phrase a wolf in sheep's clothing is hackneyed, it appropriately describes (?UNITA).

Now, the current meeting at Gbadolite has opened. It is historic and brings hopes for speeding up a peaceful solution to the Angolan problem. Let us hope that this will materialize.

Results Discussed

EA2606150289 Moscow International Service in Amharic 1530 GMT 23 Jun 89

[From "A Few Out of Many" program]

[Text] At an international conference in the Zairean town of Gbadolite, a cease-fire agreement has been reached between the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] rebels. Our central and southern Africa reporter has sent the following details.

Eighteen African heads of state and delegations from Morocco, Tanzania, and Ivory Coast took part in the 1-day meeting. The leaders of Angola and of UNITA were meeting for the first time since 1975, when Angola achieved its independence. Moussa Traore, president of Mali and current OAU chairman has said that the handshake between Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi heralded the end of the civil war in Angola.

After a heated debate which went on longer than planned, the participants signed the Gbadolite declaration. The communique confirms the reaching of a cease-fire agreement between the opposing parties in Angola, to be effective from 24 June. Under the mediation of President Mobutu of Zaire, a special commission to prepare for national reconciliation in Angola has been appointed.

The Gbadolite agreement was made possible by the recent peace plan worked out by the Angolan Government. It has been pointed out by [word indistinct] that the Angolan Government has made other constructive efforts to put it into effect. Last Wednesday, it was disclosed in Luanda that 700 ex-UNITA members had been freed from prison. It has also been reported that the Angolan president amnestied another 50 UNITA members, previously accused of crimes against the people of the Republic and sentenced to life imprisonment, before his arrival at Gbadolite. The amnesty announced in November-December 1988, for those who stopped acts of sabotage and destruction for the good of the motherland and returned to peaceful work, is already being implemented.

Observers point out that UNITA, through its acts of sabotage and destruction, has inflicted an estimated economic loss of $20 billion. About 80,000 Angolans have been forced to become refugees.

The UNITA anti-government group has repeatedly been saved from defeat by help from South Africa's Armed Forces, and certain sections of South Africa's Armed Forces have committed frequent acts of interference in Angola. Nor is it forgotten that the United States and South Africa have armed all the members of UNITA to the teeth.

The OAU representative points out that the implementation of the Gbadolite agreement will enable Angola to give priority to socioeconomic development.

Burundi Foreign Minister Ends Visit 17 Jun

PM2006132189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Moscow Departure"]

[Text] C. Mbonimpa, Burundian minister of external relations and cooperation, who had been on a working visit to the Soviet Union at the Soviet Government's invitation, left Moscow on 17 June.

East Europe

GDR's Honecker Continues Visit to Magnitogorsk

Tours Steel Combine Museum

LD2906132689 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1105 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Magnitogorsk (ADN)—The history of the Magnitogorsk iron and steel giant was recalled to memory by a film, which Erich Honecker and those accompanying him saw during a visit to the iron and steel combine's museum. [passage omitted]

In recognition of his internationalist activities, Erich Honecker was decorated with the title "Magnitka work verteran". A copy of the certificate, engraved in high-grade steel, has a worthy place in the museum, which was set up in 1973 with much love and care, and which during the 1930's housed the first public library in Magnitogorsk. Erich Honecker stressed that he is proud of this decoration.

When the first metal flowed in Magnitogorsk, Ernst Thaelmann sent congratulations on behalf of the Central Committee of the German Communist Party and its central organ. "The German communists share the joy in the splendid victory," said Erich Honecker, pointing to a copy of Thaelmann's telegram. [passage omitted]

The first steam-driven excavator was used on the site in 1931. Until then, as can be seen in the museum today, spades, pick-axes, and wheelbarrows dominated. "When we see this today", said Erich Honecker, "then one can hardly imagine it. Then, a wheelbarrow was new technology for us".

In the years of the great fatherland war, Magnitogorsk played a decisive role. On the soil of the Urals, as Erich Honecker stressed, "the steel sword for the victory over Hitler's fascism" was forged. [passage omitted]

The heroic deeds of the Magnitogorsk people, Erich Honecker emphasized, could not and should not be forgotten by the people of a Europe freed from the fascist yoke and by the workers of the whole world. The general secretary referred to a photo which shows the signing of the deed of surrender in Karlshorst by the leadership of the Hitler Wehrmacht. "An historical moment," he said. "The people of Magnitogorsk made a decisive contribution to that".

The most recent photo in the museum was taken on 27 April this year. It shows the heads of Magnitogorsk and the GDR steel town of Brandenburg putting their signatures to an agreement on town-twinning.

At the conclusion of his tour, Erich Honecker made the following entry in the visitor's book: "The visit to your museum has reawakened deep memories in us. Your exhibition most impressively shows the different chapters of the eventful and successful history in the development of the iron and steel combine and of the town of Magnitogorsk. The heroic deeds of the Soviet people are immortalized, in building up this place from the first 5-year plan from nothing, and developing it into a flourishing industrial metropolis. In particular, in the difficult early years, communists from throughout the world, including Germans, gave support. For them it was a heartfelt concern to make their contribution to the blossoming of the first socialist state. It is with great satisfaction that the pictures of revolutionary traditions of fraternal solidarity between our parties, states, and people continue into the present like an unbreakable ribbon."

In memory of the visit, Erich Honecker gave the museum a bronze sculpture, "The Steel Founders," created in 1984 by the sculptor Gerhard Thieme, and also copies of historical documents and photographs from GDR archives. [passage omitted]

Honors Lenin in Magnitogorsk

LD2906140589 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1147 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Magnitogorsk (ADN)—Erich Honecker, Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, was given an enthusiastic welcome today at the "V.I.Lenin" iron and steel combine in Magnitogorsk. [passage omitted]

Ivan Bossenko, chairman of the Veterans council, turned to the general secretary with the words: "What hard times you and the party must have endured after your return to Germany. And yet you won through." Requested to say more about these years, Erich Honecker reported that in 1933, just after fascism had seized power, he had begun illegal work, first in Baden-Wuerttemberg and then in Berlin, where he was arrested by the Gestapo and fell into the hands of the "Adolf Hitler" leibstandarte. He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by the second Senate of the so-called People's Court. "On 27 May 1945 the Red Army freed me from the Brandenburg prison."

A visit to the museum provided a comprehensive overview of the efforts and enthusiasm of the builders, and showed the internationalist cooperation of Soviet and foreign communists and independents in the building of the combine.

In the city center, Erich Honecker and those accompanying him then honored the memory of Lenin, and laid a wreath at the memorial for the founders of the Bolshevik party and the Soviet state. Here, too, numerous citizens, including many students from the university of mining and the iron and steel industry, greeted Honecker with lively applause.

At a celebratory event for the 60th anniversary of the founding of Magnitogorsk, Honecker will this evening, as guest of honor, give a speech. During the course of the function he will be given honorary citizenship of Magnitogorsk.

Talks to Combine Workers

LD2906204889 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Video report by special correspondents A. Zholkver, Yu. Chernyatin, and I. Galpterin in Magnitogorsk; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] As we already reported, Comrade Erich Honecker, who is in the USSR on a working visit, has arrived in Magnitogorsk. Comrade Vorotnikov is accompaning him on his trip.

The first visit was to the Magnitogorsk metallurgical combine, the very same one, in the construction of which Erich Honecker participated in 1935 as a part of an international youth detachment. One of the stands in the combine's museum reminds us of this. [Video shows various portraits of Honecker on display in a museum] [passage omitted] [Video shows an aerial view of steelworks, the interior of steel works, a large steel structure, and tall chimneys pouring orange-colored smoke into the atmosphere.]

The combine leaders are telling Comrade Honecker about the progress in the reconstruction, which enterprises from the GDR are also participating in. In its turn, the Magnitka's production is supplied to our German friends. Comrade Honecker is interested in how cooperation is developing, what problems are arising in this process, and what its reserves and prospects are. [Video shows Honecker surrounded by a group of men; Vorotnikov present in background, touring the plant; Honecker standing and talking to the entourage and a clip of a happy smiling worker.]

A cordial meeting between Comrade Honecker and veteran workers with those who remember the labor fraternity with the first builders of the Magnitka from many countries was also held here at the combine. [Video shows Honecker in hard hat chatting inside the production hall with a number of men.]

Erich Honecker heard about present day Magnitogorsk. At the time of his first arrival here, the construction workers lived in huts and tents. [Video shows a street of a town and a monument with a sign "We Lived in Tents".] [passage omitted] [Video shows an aerial view of the town and a river flowing through its center.]

The city leaders told the guests about the plans to solve social and ecological problems. The citizens of Magnitogorsk, who are now celebrating the 600th anniversary, cordially greeted the leader of the fraternal GDR. [Video shows Honecker talking to a large group of officials and Honecker shaking hands with people in a street.] Comrade Honecker laid flowers to the Lenin Memorial at the city's Central Square.

Addresses Magnitogorsk Citizens

LD2906230189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [video shows a meeting in Magnitogorsk] This evening there was a festive meeting devoted to the anniversary of Magnitogorsk. A message of greetings from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was read out. Speeches were made by the first builders of the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Combine and representatives of the combine's present many-thousands-strong collective. [Video shows those on platform meeting, including Honecker seated next to Vorotnikov, then the audience applauding Gorbachev's greetings, and then various speakers.]

The participants of the festive meeting were then greeted by children—Magnitogorsk's future. [Video shows children trooping into the meeting.]

The floor was granted to Comrade Honecker, who had just been elected an honorary citizen of Magnitogorsk.

He conveyed to all the inhabitants of Magnitogorsk cordial congratulations and fraternal militant greetings from the communists and all the working people of the GDR. Comrade Honecker stressed that the course of restructuring and renewing Soviet society enjoys the full support of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the people of the GDR. We are fully determined, the GDR leader said, to support in all respects this process in the USSR.

Speaking of his meeting yesterday with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, Comrade Honecker noted that it marked a new landmark on the path of expanding and deepening relations between the GDR and the USSR. The two socialist countries are making energetic efforts to raise our cooperation to a new higher level. [Video shows Honecker speaking and audience applauding.]

Further on Address at Meeting

PM3006114489 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 89 Second Edition pp 1, 5

[TASS report on 29 June Magnitogorsk anniversary meeting addressed by E. Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council: "Festival in Magnitogorsk"]

[Excerpt] Magnitogorsk (Chelyabinsk Oblast), 29 Jun—[Passage omitted] E. Honecker addressed those present.

The name of the city and combine of Magnitogorsk, he said, has gone down forever in the glorious chronicles of your country's unparalleled upsurge and its transformation into a mighty socialist industrial power with leading science, technology, and culture. The 60 years of Magnitogorsk's development are years of heroic creation and outstanding achievements by many generations of the Soviet working class for the sake of socialism. And at the same time, vivid pages in the history of internationalist assistance and the solidarity of the world proletariat with Soviet working people.

I myself had the great good fortune, together with other young German communists, to participate in the construction of the metallurgical combine in the summer of 1931, as part of an international shock team. In the difficult conditions of that early period, living in barracks, tents, and wooden huts, side by side with Soviet Communists, Communist Youth League [Komsomol] members, and representatives of all the peoples of the Soviet Union, we worked enthusiastically to build a new, socialist world.

Of course, my present meeting with Magnitogorsk causes me special emotion in connection with the conferring of the title of honorary citizen on me. I see this at the same time as a high assessment of the activity of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and the GDR. I wholeheartedly thank you for this. It is well known in our country that your combine is the most powerful enterprise of this type in the Soviet Union. The implementation of the program for its comprehensive modernization will help to further increase the combine's importance on a countrywide scale.

The successful resolution of the tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference, E. Honecker went on, is of far-reaching significance not only for the USSR, but for the strengthening of world socialism and the consolidation of peace. We wish Communists and all working people of the Land of the Soviets success in implementing their initiatives. We are fully determined to support this process in every respect in the USSR, a country with which we have been linked since the first days of its existence.

Speaking of his country's present-day achievements, the GDR leader went on to note that the road to these achievements was hard. As the leading bastion of socialism on the dividing line with the imperialist system in Europe, he went on, we are in close proximity to the capitalist German state—the FRG. We continue to be subjected to constant attacks and various provocations by those forces that have not renounced their aim of eliminating socialism on German soil. This is indicated by the fact that at present they seek particularly zealously to impose capitalist "values" on us. But there can hardly be any talk of values, when millions of people are plunged into the abyss of the so-called new poverty. They will never achieve their goal of discrediting socialism in the eyes of GDR citizens. We will continue to show constant concern for strengthening the power of the workers and peasants and reliably defending it. This is indicated by our indissoluble alliance with the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states.

Speaking of the main areas of the SED's activity, based on the unity of economic and social policy, the speaker stressed that this activity involves the creative application of the general laws of socialist building in the light of concrete national conditions and needs, traditions, the experience of struggle, and real potential. The building of a developed socialist society in the GDR is regarded as a historical process of profound political, economic, social, cultural, and spiritual transformations.

Dwelling on problems of international life, E. Honecker said that the GDR is taking concrete steps to promote the steady continuation of the disarmament process in the sphere of nuclear and conventional arms. This is indicated by the unilateral reduction that has begun in the numerical strength of its National People's Army and the corresponding military hardware, as well as the initiatives on creating zones free from chemical and nuclear weapons and a zone of confidence in Central Europe, and many other steps to establish the principles of reason and realism in international relations. On the road to a common European home we need not a policy of arms buildup and confrontation, but a policy of disarmament, cooperation, and detente, a policy of peace. The approaching 50th anniversary of the unleashing of World War II and the 48th anniversary of Hitlerite fascism's invasion of the Soviet Union, as well as the growing influence of neofascists in the FRG, should be a serious warning to all of us, the speaker stressed. He noted that the GDR wholly and fully supports the far-reaching initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, initiatives permeated by a high sense of responsibility for the future of peace throughout the world and aimed at strengthening security and disarmament.

In the year of the 40th anniversary of the GDR's formation, E. Honecker said, we reaffirm that an indissoluble alliance links our party, our state, and our people with the CPSU, the Soviet Union, and the Soviet people. My meeting with M.S. Gorbachev yesterday marks a new milestone on the path of widening and deepening GDR-USSR relations.

These relations are marked by unparalleled intensity and diversity. Their further development is dear to our hearts and minds. Our two socialist countries are making persistent efforts to raise cooperation to a new, higher level. Yesterday Comrade Gorbachev and I stressed our determination to consistently advance along this path on the basis of the community of views on fundamental questions of foreign policy and socialist building.

Our cooperation in the economic sphere has reached a truly impressive scale. The USSR is our republic's biggest foreign trade partner, and conversely the GDR is the Soviet Union's biggest foreign trade partner. Our collaboration is aimed more and more actively toward the wide introduction and utilization of key technologies, including microelectronics and modern computer technology. The coordinated concept for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation through the year 2000 sets our countries new tasks oriented toward the future. The wider utilization of the potential of our relations is promoted by 160 accords on direct links concluded between combines, enterprises, and scientific institutions. In the near future new documents will be signed, as a result of which approximately one-half of the GDR's working people will become directly involved in first-hand cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Chelyabinsk Oblast traditionally makes a valuable contribution to fruitful ties between our two countries. Thus, for instance, your metallurgical and machine building output enjoys a good reputation in the GDR. On the other hand, deliveries of various articles made by our industry help to strengthen your region's economic potential. We are particularly pleased that the establishment of partnership links between Brandenburg and Magnitogorsk have opened a new chapter in the multifaceted relations between representatives of the working class and the peoples of our two countries.

Once again I thank you wholeheartedly for the unforgettable hours spent in Magnitogorsk. I wish you new successes in labor for the Soviet people's sake, and good health, happiness, and creative energy to you and your nearest and dearest. [passage omitted]

East German SED Party Plenum Reported

PM2706150189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "SED Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Berlin, 24 Jun—A plenum of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee ended its work here yesterday. Its participants approved the SED Central Committee Politburo report delivered by J. Herrmann, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

The SED Central Committee Politburo attaches paramount importance to the further implementation of the accords reached between E. Honecker and M.S. Gorbachev last September, the speaker emphasized. They are aimed at further expansion of fraternal cooperation with the Soviet Union and the CPSU and increasingly close collaboration between the GDR and the USSR in the economic sphere.

The visit by USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze to Berlin proceeded beneath the sign of the further deepening of all-around cooperation between the two countries. In the course of his meetings with E. Honecker, emphasis was placed on satisfaction with the level of fraternal and unprecedentedly intensive and multifaceted relations between the SED and the CPSU, between the GDR and the Soviet Union. They confirmed the community of views on fundamental questions of foreign policy and socialist building. J. Herrmann expressed confidence that this will also be expressed during E. Honecker's forthcoming visit to Moscow and his participation in festivities to mark the 60th anniversary of the foundation of Magnitogorsk.

The plenum resolved that report and election meetings in primary organizations and in kreis and bezirk party organizations be held between 2 January and 8 April next year.

The Central Committee approved directives for the election of delegates for the 12th SED Congress, to be held in Berlin 15-19 May 1990.

Solovyev Receives Dresden Delegation

PM2306115489 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jun 89 p 1

[TASS report: "Linked by Indissoluble Bonds"]

[Text] Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad Oblast Party Committee, yesterday received in the Smolnyy a delegation from Dresden Bezirk that is here to take part in the Dresden Days that have begun in our city to mark the 40th anniversary of the GDR's formation.

In the course of the friendly talk, mention was made with deep satisfaction of the progressive development of fraternal relations and all-around cooperation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the GDR, who are resolving important tasks in economic and social development and collaborating successfully in the world arena on many topical problems of international security.

Soviet people, Yu.F. Solovyev stressed, are now living under the influence of a most important event—the Congress of People's Deputies has just ended in Moscow. A vast number of views on the most diverse issues were put forward at its sessions. They must now be interpreted, and a platform formulated for practical activity. One thing is beyond doubt—a marked step forward toward people's power has been taken.

The congress fulfilled an important task—it formed the Supreme Soviet and set up numerous commissions and committees. We expect the USSR Supreme Soviet and the government, Yu.F. Solovyev said, to formulate not only practical measures, but also the theoretical foundations for the further development of the socialist society in the USSR.

In general the work of the forum of people's deputies is assessed positively. The Leningrad party organization has clear ideas of what must be done, and how, in the new conditions. Major work lies ahead, especially in the political sphere. In transferring power to the soviets, communists must participate still more actively in the restructuring process. Leningrad and the oblast are preparing for the switch to self-financing and cost recovery. The fulfillment of this important task places additional responsibility on the soviet organs, but communists cannot remain aloof either. The process of democratization and glasnost, the Leningraders hope, will help to answer many of the questions that arise in the course of restructuring the economy and the economic mechanism.

The leader of the delegation, Hans Modrow, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee and first secretary of Dresden Bezirk Party Committee, expressed gratitude for the interesting and useful talk. The information made available to us, he stated, will help us to form a better understanding of the current changes in Soviet society. Preparations for the 12th SED Congress are at the center of the work of the Dresden Bezirk party organization and all working people. The recent elections to the local organs of power graphically demonstrated the people's support for the activity of the SED and our republic's government. However, even in these conditions major, daily political work is needed both with the population and with party members.

Hans Modrow expressed gratitude to the Leningraders for their good organization of the Dresden Days. We are sure, he stressed, that at the new stage of social development our relations will rise to a still higher level. In further deepening the friendship between the two cities, it is important not only to make use of the experience accumulated, but also to find new methods of effective cooperation that will help to strengthen socialism in the two countries.

The envoys from Dresden laid flowers at the V.I. Lenin monument by the historic building.

Hungary's Grosz Under Fire, To Resign

PM3006095989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 1

[From roundup of TASS, REUTER, UPI reports under the rubric "Abroad": "K. Grosz Interview"]

[Text] K. Grosz, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP], has said that he wants to resign from his post. In an interview published in the newspaper MAI NEP, he said: I will no longer be general secretary of the party after the parliamentary elections (planned for next year). Obviously I will continue to participate in political life at some level, but I no longer wish to be general secretary.

Daily MTI news bulletins report that Grosz has been accused of making a number of mistakes which have undermined his position as leader of the party. Jasso, leader of the Budapest MSZMP organization, has told members of the city party organization that by a number of his statements Grosz has created grounds for criticism of himself.

MSZMP Issues Draft Party Statutes

PM2306084789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[V. Gerasimov dispatch under the rubric "Socialist Countries: Life of the Fraternal Parties": "MSZMP: New Statutes Proposed"]

[Text] Budapest—The Hungarian press has published proposals made by the Hungarian Socialist Worker's Party [MSZMP] Central Committee Party Policy Commission regarding the draft of new party statutes.

The commission's proposals say that the MSZMP's aim is to create a socialist society founded on freedom of the individual, which endeavors to give everyone equal opportunities, and is based on self-management. It is noted that the MSZMP is a united party and preserves the Marxist spirit of the social democratic and communist movement and the socialist collective values of the workers movement. MSZMP policy will also be based on theoretical achievements and political practice, and humanist and leftist trends. The party is open to all ideas and initiatives serving progress and harmony between man and nature.

The commission's proposals then say that the MSZMP will base itself in its policy on the Hungarian nation's historical traditions and derive strength from its spiritual achievements and culture. The MSZMP's activity will serve the interests of working people and the entire nation.

The new statutes indicate that the party will act in the interests of the country's spiritual, economic, and political integration. The MSZMP is in sympathy with everyone who is struggling for freedom and progress.

The proposals contain items recording that the MSZMP plans to pursue its activity in accordance with the Constitution, with respect for the laws. It offers cooperation and alliance to all political forces that are ready to rally around the idea of prosperity for the homeland.

After a debate the new draft statutes will be put to the Hungarian National Party Conference for ratification.

Polish Elections, Solidarity Criticism Viewed

LD2206215489 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 22 Jun 89

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Excerpts] Throughout the world these days, a great deal is being said and written about the socialist countries. I do not think there is any need to explain why. Poland has attracted particular attention. You know, of course, that the recent elections were not favorable to the government coalition and, in particular, to the Polish United Workers' Party [PZPR]. Premier Rakowski, who, incidentally, was among those not elected, when analyzing the reasons for the electoral defeat, said figuratively that the PZPR had been climbing uphill with a large sack full of heavy stones over its shoulder, while the opposition ran alongside unencumbered. When speaking about the load being shouldered, he was referring to the numerous economic and social problems that have accumulated in Poland, and, naturally, it was those in power who had to deal with them.

That is, undoubtedly, an important reason, but it is, I think, certainly not the only one. The absence of any great unity within the government coalition also had an effect. Then there was the fact, of course, that many party functionaries had simply forgotten how to talk to the people, had forgotten how to conduct political discussions and defend their viewpoint—something at which, incidentally, the opposition has become very expert over the last few years. [passage omitted: The elections are over. What now? The distribution of parliamentary seats does not provide a way out of the economic problems facing the country] What is more, among a particular section of the population, the hope of that way out has even diminished somewhat because the whole emotive content of the speeches made by the opposition, by solidarity, has, after all, been based mainly on criticism. It simply has no precise economic program of its own. [passage omitted: Solidarity has no wish to share the burden of running the country; Walesa rejected a call from Jaruzelski and the PZPR to join a coalition government, but he did say that everyone must settle down to carrying out the much-needed economic reforms.]

I think that, whether the opposition wants that or not, if the concern that it has voiced for Poland, the economic position of the working people and the improvement of that position is not just a matter of political phrases, but is a sincere wish, then it will have to embark not on the road of inter-bloc struggle, but on the road of joint search for the wisest, most farsighted and well-grounded solutions.

Troops Withdrawing From Poland Interviewed

LD2406223189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; V. Voloshin report]

[Text] [Voloshin] We are bringing today's military review from the military vehicle park of one of the units of the northern group of troops, which is being withdrawn in the process of the reduction of Soviet Armed forces from the territory of the Polish People's Republic. The troops are now preparing their vehicles for the 850 km march. It is a complex task. The column will go home under its own steam. Literally 1 week ago a motor vehicle battalion left to be disbanded down this same route. Now other subunits and units are waiting their turn: They include tank troops, anti-aircraft missile troops, helicopter troops, and chemical expert troops: In brief, in accordance with the plans for the reduction of Soviet troops, our troops are being withdrawn home from here. This decision has been met with understanding both by our officers, warrant officers and soldiers, and by the Polish public. [video shows soldiers checking engines, tires, and then trucks driving away]

We have met those who are leaving for home because of the reduction: officers and warrant officers, and members of their families from the military unit where Colonel-General Vodopyanov, Grigoriy Vasiliyevich served.

[Vodopyanov] The time is coming when it is necessary to remove all troops from foreign territory.

[First unidentified serviceman] We are in favor, only in favor of reducing our armed forces, of solving all tasks facing us with fewer forces and means. Only in favor.

[Second unidentified servicemen] Unfortunately sometimes the questions are not solved that our subordinate officers ought to solve, that is to say, the existing apparatus: The staff officers of the various services.

[Third unidentified servicemen] Where specifically each officer, every warrant officer will serve, where their families will live, where they children will study. At the present time this question has not been solved. [video shows servicemen and some family members at a meeting.]

[Voloshin] Yes, there are problems connected with the reduction, and they must be solved, even more so that there is still time for this. (?A lot) is being done now for those who are leaving the northern group of troops. [video shows troops and families in a bus and motorcyclists in flourescent clothing.]

PZPR's Czarzasty on Lessons of Election

PM2306071789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[Interview with Zygmunt Czarzasty, secretary of the Polish United Workers Party (PZPR) Central Committee, by V. Runov: "Arguments in Favor of Changes"—date not specified]

[Text] Warsaw—The elections to the Sejm and Senate in Poland are over and the final composition of parliament has been determined. The country has entered a new stage in its development. At SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's request, your TASS correspondent in Warsaw interviewed Z. Czarzasty, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

[Runov] Poland has now entered a new political era characterized by the presence of a powerful opposition in parliament. This is the first time that such a situation has occurred in a socialist country. What caused this situation and what was the impetus to such radical changes in state structures?

[Czarzasty] Not only Poland but the entire socialist world is currently entering a new phase of development. We were one of the first to embark on radical democratic transformations. Their main characteristic is that as a result of the elections the opposition, which until quite recently was illegal, managed to win 260 out of the 560 seats in the parliament. After the second round of voting on 18 June an entirely new political era began in the country. The party initiated the introduction of the new system of parliamentary democracy, which is being built in the light of the interests of all social groups. At the current stage of development in a period of complex interlinked contradictions the PZPR alone could not bring the country out of its crisis. It needed resolute steps to mobilize all forces in the country to seek rational development paths. Thus the obstacle to the masses' creative activity was removed and an opportunity to participate in social life was offered to all who are willing and able to assume responsibility for Poland's future.

[Runov] However, there are serious obstacles in the way of that process which may hinder the process of democratization. Practice shows that it is often just one step from democracy to anarchy. How are these processes going to continue developing? Is it possible now to give at least a rough forecast of what is going to happen in Poland in the immediate future?

[Czarzasty] There are always a great many hidden dangers on the path of revolutionary transformations. Poland has already experienced more than one serious crisis. That is why the level of the people's political consciousness is quite high. The realization is gradually dawning that it is only in the process of parliamentary struggle that the right decisions can be found and implemented. To understand the situation that has come about it is necessary to answer the main question: Would it have been possible to set the creative energy of the masses in motion without legalizing the opposition? The answer is an unambiguous no. Were it outside the law, "Solidarity" would have continued to play only a destructive role, criticizing everything. But the situation has changed now. The opposition is gradually beginning to involve itself in the solution of concrete tasks and has simultaneously acquired duties as well as rights.

[Runov] What guarantees are there that as a result of this the socialist foundations of the state will remain intact?

[Czarzasty] That confidence is provided by the decisions made during the roundtable talks which the government coalition and the opposition vowed to the people that they would implement. In addition, legal safeguards have been created ensuring that the coalition has the majority in parliament during the most complex transitional period. The main hope, however, is of devising a rational model for constructive cooperation among all political forces. Only then is it possible give a favorable prediction for the future, but even that does not preclude difficulties and failures.

[Runov] Nevertheless, the PZPR suffered a defeat in the elections. What is the mood within the party at grassroots level now, is there any hope that the PZPR will be soon able to restore its positions?

[Czarzasty] There is quite a strong mood of criticism within the party today, including criticism of the leadership. The stage of bureaucratic management is over, the party's activity is gradually beginning to acquire a social character. However, this process is not moving as quickly as we would like. Rank and file PZPR members are still weighed down by a large apparatus and their role in most instances is reduced to that of theatrical extras. But the elections showed that the party's grass roots are the foundation on which the success or failure of the entire party depends.

[Runov] How is the party's leading role seen in this situation?

[Czarzasty] This concept has acquired new meaning. Previously the party's leading role was equivalent to a monopoly of the party bureaucracy leadership. That weakened the party, it did not strengthen it. Now work must be organized in such a way that the main force is the aktiv, which showed that even in the complex situation in which the party found itself on the eve of the elections a great deal can be done. It is necessary to organize activity in a new way in workers' and territorial self-management bodies and people's councils. The PZPR will be with the people and among the people. The election defeat was the final failure of a bureaucratic party system which had outlived itself. We needed that lesson and it will be beneficial.

[Runov] What do you see as the main reasons for the party's election defeat?

[Czarzasty] The opposition did not observe all the rules of the game during the election. The Church did not remain neutral. The parliamentary elections were conducted virtually in the form of a plebiscite. Their results may be considered society's reaction to earlier mistakes in management methods and the difficult conditions of daily life. Consequently Poles tended toward one-sided assessments of us. But to be entirely honest, it must be acknowledged that in this struggle the winners were not people but symbols. It was a defeat for the party but not a victory for the opposition. At the same time, the scale of the defeat must not be minimized. There is an important point in all this—that sooner or later it was necessary to pay for the mistakes that had been made. In politics one is neither strong nor weak forever. We must forge our weakness into strength.

The forthcoming 13th PZPR Central Committee Plenum is to begin work on preparing for the 11th party congress. A broad discussion will begin within the PZPR on new rules and a program. Cadres will be replaced, the party's whole appearance will change, perhaps even its name, too, but the ideas of humane socialism will continue to form the essence of its ideological base.

'Strange' Report on Bulgarian Expulsions Denied

AU2606151989 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 23 Jun 89 p 5

[BTA report: "Biased Publication"]

[Text] Moscow, 22 June (TASS Political Commentator Yuriy Kornilov)—A really strange report appeared on the pages of the British DAILY TELEGRAPH today. Referring to some unidentified "official sources" in Istanbul, this newspaper claims that "individuals of Turkish nationality" are allegedly "forcibly expelled from Bulgaria with the approval of the Soviet Union."

Every single word of this report is either distorted, or represents a deliberate attempt at disinformation.

Yes, it is true that a number of Bulgarian citizens, taking advantage of the new legislation on foreign travel passports, are now departing for Turkey. However, as it was officially announced in Sofia, the report, disseminated by certain Western circles, about an alleged "expulsion," or "deportation" of such people is biased and untrue. Bulgaria has never "expelled" or "deported" anyone, and guarantees all its citizens the legitimate right of leaving the country and of returning. Is it possible that the DAILY TELEGRAPH should not know about such official statements, that have been widely disseminated by the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency (BTA)?

As to the British newspaper's allegation related to the fact that this so-called expulsion is taking place with the "approval" of the USSR, it sounds even more nonsensical. It is more than evident that the departure of some Bulgarian citizens to Turkey is their own business and part of Bulgaria's domestic affairs. What has this to do with the Soviet Union and its imaginary "approval?"

West Europe

Lukyanov, New French Ambassador Meet in Moscow

Ambassador Presents Credentials

LD2906164789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Merillon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of France presented his credentials to Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, in the Kremlin today [29 Jun]. Franco-Soviet relations, Merillon declared, should have a special quality which could facilitate the deepening of bilateral cooperation and the establishment of universal peace. In this context, he said, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to France assumes major significance.

A friendly conversation took place between Comrade Lukyanov and Merillon, following the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches.

'Friendly Conversation' Held

LD2906180989 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic Jean-Marie Merillon presented his credentials to Anatoliy Lukyanov, first vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet and a Politburo member, in the Kremlin today.

The changes now under way in the USSR are of historic significance not only for the Soviet people but for the whole world, Jean-Marie Merillon said. They attest to the USSR's tremendous potential for development. This is a promising path and it is important that other members of the international community fittingly respond to the Soviet proposals. The Franco-Soviet relations must have a special quality that could facilitate a broader bilateral cooperation and the establishment of universal peace, the ambassador said. In this context, Jean-Marie Merillon said, Mikhail Gorbachev's upcoming visit to France acquires special significance.

In accepting the credentials on behalf of the Presidium and the president of the Supreme Soviet, Lukyanov pointed out that constructive Soviet-French cooperation is an important factor of positive changes taking place in the world under the influence of the new political thinking. The idea of building a common European home, based on the priority of universal human values and interests, is opening the way for itself with increasing vigour in the public opinion and at different negotiations fora. The confidence was expressed that the Soviet-French summit meeting to be held on the eve of the 200th anniversary of the great French revolution would contribute to strengthening a regular and mutually-advantageous nature of the dialogue between the two countries and filling it with new intellectual and political energy.

After the presentation of the credentials and exchange of speeches Anatoliy Lukyanov and Jean-Marie Merillon had a friendly conversation.

Kamentsev, UK Minister Sign Protocol of Intent

LD2906224189 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—There were talks today between Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Lord Young, British secretary of state for trade and industry and the head of a British delegation, who arrived in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The sides discussed questions of further development of Soviet- British trade and economic relations in the light of understandings which were reached between Mikhail Gorbachev and Margeret Thatcher during the visit of the Soviet delegation to London in April 1989.

Pointing to unused possibilities, the sides expressed the need for accelerated implementation of new forms of cooperation, including joint ventures, co-production and others.

Kamentsev and Young signed a protocol of intent between the governments of the two countries on giving aid to establishment of consortiums. The sides will render assistance to potential Soviet and British members of consortiums and joint ventures in finding partners in such spheres as the timber, pulp and paper, and chemical industries, biotechnology, machine-building, reconstruction and construction of hotels and buildings, tourism, etc.

The talks were held in a frank and constructive atmosphere.

Rogachev, UK Official Discuss Asia-Pacific

LD3006024089 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2206 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] London, 30 June (TASS)—The latest Soviet-British consultations on problems of the Asian-Pacific Ocean region took place on 29 June in London. I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, and D. Gillmore, deputy under-secretary of state in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, exchanged opinions regarding general tendencies in the development of the situation in this region of the world. The existence of points of contact was noted in the sides' approach to settlement of regional conflicts and above all to solution of the Cambodian problem [kambodzhiyskiy vopros].

Council of Europe Delegation Visits Moscow

Primakov Meets Delegation

LD2906202989 Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—Yevgeniy Primakov, chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met today with a delegation from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, led by its president Anders Bjoerk.

In their informal conversation, the sides examined various aspects of cooperation between the USSR's parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in many areas and discussed approaches to building a common European home.

They pointed to the mutual striving to stabilise the international atmosphere and create necessary structures contributing to a solid and safe peace in Europe.

Primakov and Bjoerk favoured the development of diverse contacts between Soviet and Western European parliamentarians in the interests of deepening manifold international cooperation in Europe.

Delegation Head Holds News Briefing

LD2906173389 Moscow TASS in English 1242 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—Anders Bjoerk, president of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, has described the talks in Moscow as very concrete and constructive. He heads the Parliamentary Assembly delegation which is staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Speaking at a news conference here today, Bjoerk noted that issues of the development of cooperation in such areas as human rights, environmental protection, culture, regional conflicts in areas adjacent to Europe, and efforts to combat international terrorism were central to the talks.

Bjoerk recalled that a decision was made in May on granting the USSR, Hungary, Poland, and Yugoslavia a special status of guests of the Parliamentary Assembly. The issue of granting the status also to other European Socialist countries will be considered in the foreseeable future, he added. The choice of these four states is explained by the democratisation processes in them, which, in the opinion of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, are irreversible. Negotiations are also conducted on opening a general consulate of the USSR in Strasbourg, where the Parliamentary Assembly is headquartered.

According to Bjoerk, the dialogue, which was launched with the USSR Supreme Soviet, is unique and historic. He stressed that next week's speech by Mikhail Gorbachev in Strasbourg is awaited with immense interest and expressed confidence that this event will facilitate the building of a common European home, whose foundation has already been laid down.

FRG International Security Seminar Ends

LD2406200389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1348 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Ebenhausen (FRG), 24 Jun (TASS)—The military doctrines of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO and topical problems of international security were considered at a seminar held in this small town in Bavaria. The meeting was held under the slogan "The concept of security, military strategy, and doctrines" at the initiative of the local FRG "Science and Politics Foundation" and the Polish Institute of International Relations. Taking part in the seminar were politicians, academics, and representatives of the armed forces of European countries as well as of the United States of America.

The meeting which has concluded was very interesting, Army General V.N. Lobov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact states, who took part in the seminar, noted in a conversation with a TASS correspondent. Those taking part did not set themselves the task of resolving all the problems one encounters today in comparing military doctrines and strategies. This means first and foremost devising approaches which in the long term will make it possible to conduct detailed discussion of doctrines and strategies.

The meeting took place in an atmosphere of great commitment and openness, Army General Lobov pointed out. Despite serious differences, the international seminar was useful. One more step has been taken towards strengthening measures of trust.

Black Sea Fleet Detachment To Visit Istanbul

LD2406165289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1617 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jun (TASS). It was announced here today that in accordance with the agreement, a detachment of Soviet ships, consisting of the large anti-submarine vessels "Kerch" and "Komsomolets Ukrainy" and the flag of Admiral Mikhail Khronopulo, commander of the Black Sea Fleet, will visit the port of Istanbul from 28 June to 2 July.

Latin America & Caribbean

Costa Rica's Bianchini Continues USSR Visit

Holds 28 Jun Moscow News Conference

LD2806212189 Moscow TASS in English 1957 GMT 28 Jun 89

[For further reportage of Bianchini's visit, see pages 28-29 of the 27 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT]

[Text] Moscow June 28 TASS—"The conversation with USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard Shevardnadze showed a similarity in the stands of the USSR and Central American countries: It is only plans of political settlement that can bring peace to the Central American region", said Carlos Rivera Bianchini, deputy minister of foreign affairs, special envoy of Costa Rican president. He spoke today at a news conference at the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

Noting the importance of the (?conversation), the presidential envoy emphasized the important role that the USSR and the USA can play in settling the crisis situation in Central America. "Possible projects in the area of economic cooperation were discussed during the conversation with the Soviet minister", Carlos Rivera Bianchini said. "Tranquil and peaceful economic development of Central American countries must be achieved in order to resolve many problems of the continent".

The Costa Rican diplomat said that the Guatemalan and Salvadoran arrangements signed by representatives of Central American countries made it possible to achieve certain tranquility in the region. At the same time, there exists a need to continue the dialogue among all the sides concerned for the settlement of the conflict in Central America.

"I believe it is necessary to strive for truce in Central America, for the solution of a regional conflict by peaceful means", the diplomat said. He made a call for the development of democratic origins in Central American countries and for observing such principles as territorial integrity and inviolability of frontiers. "I can say that efforts of heads of Central American countries and their foreign ministers are bearing fruit, which made it possible to achieve relative tranquility in the regions", the envoy of the Costa Rican president said.

Bianchini spoke about the need to create special mechanisms that would promote a political settlement of the situation in Central America.

'Pleased' With Talks in USSR

PA2906170389 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1207 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow—USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has told Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Rivera Bianchini that the USSR will continue to observe its moratorium on military aid to Nicaragua. Rivera Bianchini, who is on a 2-day official visit to the USSR, was very pleased with the results of his talks with Soviet officials. During a news conference, Rivera said that Costa Rica and the USSR fully agree that there is a need for a peaceful solution to the Central American conflict.

Deputy Foreign Minister Rivera said that the Soviet authorities made no specific proposals regarding the peace plan for Central America, something that was (?expected) after Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Cuba and the superpower's total support for the 1987 Guatemala agreements, which was reiterated during this visit. Rivera Bianchini said that there are currently signs of hope that the Central American peace plan will advance and stressed the important role the superpowers and their policies play in this regard.

Political & Social

29 Jun Supreme Soviet Proceedings Reported

Ryzhkov Discusses Procedures

LD2906135889 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The Supreme Soviet, in session in Moscow, continues discussing candidacies for government posts suggested by Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov. Radio Moscow's Vitaliy Gurov considers the debate so far. [passage omitted]

Here's what the prime minister had to say about the procedure of appointment to government posts.

[Begin Ryzhkov recording in Russian, fading into English translation] This procedure is stipulated by the Constitution. The prime minister is entitled to suggest his candidate for one or another post, and this is what I did. I failed to suggest a candidate only for the job of chairman of the Committee for Environmental Protection. Six candidates of mine were rejected by parliamentary commissions and committees. Besides, I had to withdraw two candidacies during the discussions. As a result, nine government posts have to be filled. We'll look for more candidates and present them to the Supreme Soviet accordingly. [end recording]

Biryukova's Appointment Reported

LD2906154289

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 29 June broadcasts a 5-minute report by Aleksandr Ruvinskiy on the discussion about Aleksandra Pavlovna Biryukova's appointment as USSR Ministers' Council deputy chairman. Ruvinskiy says that she had to answer some pointed questions regarding culture, the health service, public education and the production of various goods. In her reply to a question as to why a law on pensions has not yet been promulgated, Biryukova replies that the new law has almost been drafted, but has not yet been submitted to the government; it will be submitted to the Supreme Soviet for examination. She says that the law is being drafted in such a way, with the involvement of various competent organizations, as to ensure that it is socially just, giving everyone a fair deal. Regarding the replacement of the law on pensions by one on veterans, she states that all countries have pension laws and this should be borne in mind. Asked somewhat later by a deputy who accuses Biryukova of beating about the bush and not answering directly when the new law on pensions will come into effect, Biryukova replies: "Comrades, I think that not a single person present in this auditorium, including the chairman of the USSR Ministers' Council as well, or the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, can give you a definite date, because the law will have to be discussed in the Supreme Soviet and will have to be discussed publicly nationwide. Only after nationwide discussion will it be submitted to the Supreme Soviet."

Ruvinskiy says that questions were also submitted in written form, questions about the prices of goods, the democratization of the medical service in the USSR, assistance to large families, about the role of the trade unions in the life of society, and many other things. Ruvinskiy then says that Biryukova was subsequently confirmed in the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Ministers' Council.

Gusev Appointment, Criticism Noted

LD2906124989 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—by TASS parliamentary correspondent:

Agreement reached by members of the USSR Supreme Soviet today in the morning to the effect that they should refrain from praising government appointees made the discussion more critical. This became evident during the discussion of the candidature of Vladimir Gusev to the post of deputy prime minister and chairman of the Council of Ministers Bureau for the Chemical-Timber Complex.

The tone was set by Gusev himself who analysed problems of the complex in a ten-minute speech with a sufficient degree of self-criticism. He admitted that the harmful impact of enterprises of the complex on the natural environment had been perceptibly intensified in the past several years. He said in this connection that in 1991-1995 85 per cent of capital investments would be channelled to the rebuilding and modernization of the existing enterprises, with special attention being paid to environmental protection measures. The figure for the current five-year-plan period was 47 per cent.

In order to preserve forests it is planned to steadily reduce the volume of logging and to make up for it through fuller timber processing, Gusev pointed out. He supported a joint study with the USSR Academy of Sciences of a possibility of transferring chemical enterprises away from resort zones.

Members of the Soviet Parliament assessed in a rather critical way the situation in the industry. Many speakers pointed out that the chemical-timber complex does not fulfill plans of the production of consumer goods, inflicts serious damage on the natural environment, continues to pursue a policy of the excessive concentration of chemical enterprises in separate regions and is slow to introduce progressive technologies. Considering those facts, some deputies objected to the appointment of Gusev to the post of deputy prime minister.

Valentin Vologzhin, chairman of the parliamentary committee for economic reform, expressed a different opinion. He said that Gusev who had headed the industry for only three years could not be held responsible for what had been done by his predecessors.

Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov said that, in his opinion, deputies criticised not so much the personal traits of the appointee as the situation in the chemical-timber complex. He pointed out that at present it was necessary to study all the problems of the chemical industry in a comprehensive way and not to replace senior executives one after another.

The deputies agreed with him and approved Vladimir Gusev as deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Discussion of Gusev Appointment

LD2906155589

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 29 June broadcasts a 5-minute report by Aleksandr Ruvinskiy on the discussion about Gusev's nomination for the post of USSR Minister's Council deputy chairman. He says that Gusev outlined his programs and some extracts from Gusev's speech are quoted. Gusev says, in particular: "The further destiny of scientific and technical progress of all branches of the country's national economy depends on the development of the complex, as well as the satisfaction of each person's needs in medicines, clothing, foodstuffs, and protection from weapons of mass destruction. Of late, however, extreme complications have arisen in connection with the increasingly acute ecological situation. For us it is clear that unless the question of the elimination of the harmful effect of enterprises on the external medium and people are resolved, further prospects for the development of the industry and the present work are almost impossible. This is why the priority trend in our program is the implementation of measures with respect to a considerable improvement in the ecological situation, on the basis of the radical reconstruction of each enterprise and complex, employing new waste-free technology. It is intended to implement this from 1990 through 1995. In connection with what has been said, it has been determined that in the 13th 5-year plan 85 percent of the capital investment will be directed into reconstruction, as compared with 47 percent in the current year. Taking into account that the Forestry Industry ministry forms part of the complex, it should be said that here ecological problems will be solved in the following manner.

"Over the next 2 years we shall achieve timber procurement which does not exceed that established for the calculated wood-cutting areas. Second, the subsequent reduction in the total volume of timber procurement will be achieved with the considerably intensified processing of the timber. Our main aim is to preserve the forests to a maximal extent to generate oxygen." Ruvinskiy says that Gusev continues speaking about the satisfaction of the economy's demand for chemical products such as chemical fibers, paints, tires, furniture, medicines, construction plastics and many petroleum products by introducing new technological processes. Gusev says that they reckon the problem of soaps and detergents will be solved by the third quarter of this year. Regarding disposable syringes, he says: "According to our calculations 2 years are needed for the demand to be completely satisfied. And this year we shall deliver no less than 5 million of them to health service institutions."

Ruvinskiy concludes that Gusev also answered many questions put forward by deputies, in the main connected with ecological problems, as well as questions concerning the rational use of forestry resources, and Ruvinskiy says: "Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov also spoke. He supported Gusev's nomination, having noted that in the branch that he has to take charge of, there are indeed very many problems. That is a complicated and contradictory complex in our national economy. On the one hand there is a shortage of fertilizers and pesticides, and various other types of chemical products, but on the other hand everywhere the demands are resounding that all the existing chemical enterprises should be closed down and new ones should not be erected."

Ruvinskiy concludes that after the voting Gusev's nomination was approved by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Gusev Debate Relayed

LD2906232389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Afternoon session of the USSR Supreme Soviet at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses 29 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] We are broadcasting relay recordings from today's sitting of the Supreme Soviet session. The commentator Igor Zorin gives explanations.

[Lukyanov] The matter of the nomination of Comrade Vladimir Kuzmich Gusev to the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers in charge of the chemical and timber complex—and therefore he runs the relevant bureau of the USSR Council of Ministers. Comrade deputies have asked me to report this to them and that is what I am doing. As you know, the commissions have voiced their views on the candidacy of Comrade Gusev. We will ask him to say a few words. Vladimir Kuzmich Gusev.

[Zorin] He is taking the floor now.

[Gusev] Esteemed comrade members of the USSR Supreme Soviet, allow me to set forth briefly just the basic guidelines of the program that ensures the fulfillment of the tasks facing the industry of the chemical and timber complex. I want to note that the further destiny of scientific and technical progress of all branches of the country's national economy depends on the development of the complex, as well as the satisfaction of each person's needs in medicines, clothing foodstuffs, and protection from weapons of mass destruction. Lately, however, extreme complications have arisen in connection with the increasingly acute ecological situation. For us it is clear that unless the questions of eliminating the harmful effect of enterprises on the atmosphere and on people are resolved, the further prospects for developing the industry and the present work will be almost impossible. This is why the priority trend in our program is to implement measures that will result in a considerable improvement in the ecological situation, on the basis of the radical reconstruction of each enterprise and complex, employing new waste-free technology.

It is intended to implement this from 1990 through 1995. In connection with what has been said, it has been determined that in the 13th 5-Year Plan 85 percent of the capital investments will be directed into reconstruction compared to 47 percent in the current year. Considering that the Ministry of the Timber Industry forms part of the complex, it should be said that here ecological problems will be solved in the following manner. Over the next 2 years we will achieve the timber procurement level that does not exceed that established for the calculated wood-cutting areas. Second, the subsequent reduction in the total volume of procurement of timber will be achieved with the considerably intensified processing of the timber. Our main aim is to preserve the forests to a maximum extent to generate oxygen.

Second, satisfying the needs of the national economy and the broad market regarding the basic products of the chemical and timber complex: It has been mapped out that the 13th 5-year plan will become the very stage that will make it possible to eliminate shortages of chemical fibres, dyes, tires, furniture, medicines, construction plastics, and a large number of petroleum products. This will be implemented first and foremost on the basis of the introduction of new technological processes.

A few words about pressing problems that were heard in speeches by deputies at the first congress and in the commissions and at the sittings of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Washing products: We calculate that this problem will be removed in the third quarter of this year. Then we plan to not allow such a situation to occur by commissioning reserve capacities. As for syringes, according to our calculations 2 years are needed for the demand to be completely satisfied. This year we will supply no less than 500 million of them to health service institutions.

Third, the further improvement of methods of managing and organizing production, and the large-scale introduction of new economic forms: Since 1988 all enterprises of the Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry have been operating using the anti-expenditure indicator of pure output. Since 1 April this year more than 60 percent of all enterprises in the complex have been going over to this and the second model of financial autonomy. Second, the intersectoral complex Tekhnokhim with our membership has been working for a year now. Third, the first state concern in the country, or maybe a state association, for the production and application of mineral fertilizers and products for protecting crops is being set up right now. Fourth, proposals have been prepared for the transfer to full financial autonomy and the foreign currency self-recoupment of all our ministries.

The fourth direction is the development of foreign economic activity. We intend to create in the 13th 5-Year Plan an export potential in the complex amounting to R10 to 15 billion a year, including no less than R5 billion a year of convertible hard currency. Social progress: We are obliged to ensure the fulfillment of all state programs, but particular attention will be paid to settlements of timber workers that are in such a bad state. There you are, comrade deputies, I would like to communicate to you the basic guidelines that we will be working on. [passage omitted on Gusev answering a question on pollution of the Lisichansk-Rubezhnoye region of the Ukraine, and rejecting the idea of making the State Committee for Forestry part of the Ministry of the Timber Industry, since a separate body to monitor the sensible use of timber is still required]

The country is 47th in the world in the sphere of paper production. It is the spiritual bread of society. How do you propose to reduce the gap, and what help do you need? [passage omitted] What is our approach and what is the essence of the question here? It is not even a matter of spending. I think that our enterprises will earn the necessary resources. We have no equipment as yet. At present in our country 1.7 million tons of paper are produced for newspapers and about 800,000 tons for publishing—that is, magazines and books. We intend to double these volumes by modernizing the existing cellulose and paper combines. This program exists. We are modernizing some of them at present in Gorkiy Oblast and they will be commissioned in 1991. We will be engaged in this at the (Selikamsk) combine and the Syktyvkar combine. I think that in the 13th 5-Year Plan we shall only have to find real sources for acquiring equipment. So we have a program for this and we shall follow it through. [passage omitted]

The territory of Bashkiriya is already oversaturated with chemicals and petrochemicals now. Despite this, construction of a chemical fiber works has begun in Blagoveshchensk and of an ammonia production facility in Meleuz. The republic's population is opposing the matters mentioned above, and this solution specifically. [signed] Deputy Nikolayev and Safin. The construction of a huge complex is in fact going on in Bashkiriya, comrades, for the production of chemical polyester fibers, commonly known as Lavsan [Soviet equivalent of dacron] fibers. This decision was taken a long time ago. I can only say the following. Equipment that was bought costing about 400 million foreign currency rubles from

Japan is starting to arrive. This complex should manufacture output in volumes of 230,000 tonnes of raw materials for polyester fibers. The overall volume of consumer goods from this and various other kinds comes to the sum of R23 billion throughout the country. We have looked at how to make the infrastructure and everything else. We think things will work there. We shall apply technology there. We think that 5,000-6,000 people maximum will be involved. They will be well housed and waste-free technology will be used. It is impossible to turn this down. In 1991 we shall already be producing 90,000 tons of fiber.

I would also like to share this thought with you briefly. Representatives from the Central Asian republics are now raising the issue, and justly in my view, of doing away with the cotton one-crop system. But at present we do not have enough chemical fibers. We buy 200,000 tons of them every year in capitalist countries. But we have to embark on reducing the cotton crop. Comrades Gorbachev and Ryzhkov have talked about this. I think that one of the alternatives, and maybe the only alternative, is the commissioning of a complex of this kind. Therefore, my point of view and that of the heads of the bureau is that the capital investment that has been allocated should be utilized as soon as possible. [passage omitted]

This question has already come up: We do not have a single ministry that deals with timber issues; there are three or four of them. Comrade Ryzhkov did not inform us of the structure and the system of the Council... We do not know how the ministries are linked and how they cooperate in order to preserve timber and use its riches fully. Again the structural muddle is hampering normal work. The deputies should know what's what, yours sincerely, Medvedev.

Comrades, I have already said that the Ministry of the Timber Industry is the main timber consuming and timber felling ministry. For your information, 385 million cubic meters of timber is cut in the country in a year, the current year that is, and of this, 216 million cubic meters is from the Ministry of the Timber Industry. The Interior Ministry accounts for a lot, and enterprises of the State Committee for Forestry directly account for 50 million cubic meters and others, 22 ministries. Our point of view on this matter. I have already voiced it. A supervisory and scientific body in the form of the State Committee for Forestry should definitely exist. [passage omitted on need for eventually all timber issues to be dealt with by a single ministry]

You know, it is always very difficult for me to say, for example, that right now only 7 percent of output in our country is produced in packaging. We have no packaging materials and plastics. The provision of gas supplies to the countryside, the next thing. We shall never resolve the issue of gas supplies through ferrous metallurgy, because there are no precedents for this in the world. This can be resolved, as is done everywhere, through pipes made from polymer materials. By the way, we produce 240,000 tons of pipes from polymers and plastics per year while the United States produces about 2 million tons of them. They are tens of times cheaper and mure durable, and they have to be developed. But evidently, again, if we are only going to shut down enterprises the country may find itself in a very tough crisis. [passage omitted on need for interests of state and ecological considerations to be weighed up, excessive timber-cutting in Sakhalin, and lack of timber for construction in northern regions]

The switch to polymer pipes is one of the main trends in the construction of pipeline networks and the construction of pipeline transportation. How do you assess the degree of our backwardness in this area by comparison with, say, the United States? What basic steps ought to be taken to bring about a fundamental expansion in pipes made of synthetic materials? What practical measures are being adopted to ease what is today the greatest bottleneck—the supply of connector components? Deputy Larionov from the CPSU.

I have already partly covered this, comrades. What are we doing now? Together with the John Brown firm of the UK, we are currently carrying out modernization in the town of Budennovsk in Stavropol Kray. Next year we are to bring in polyethylene capacities, from which 200,000 tons of these pipes can be manufactured. Similar proposals—Comrade Sazonov, I think it was, asked me to give more details on this—we also have similar proposals from this firm concerning the Kazan Orgsintez association, where on the existing site area, thanks to modernization and changes to the existing equipment, involving an improvement in ecological conditions, we shall...we want to bring in capacities for another 200,000 tons within 2 years. Our future plans have been linked with Tyumen Oblast, where we wanted, instead of burning flares, to obtain polymer materials of the necessary properties and, from 1992, to meet our country's needs for polymer pipes. That is for gas provision.

The situation is the same for municipal services. I know that in the municipal services—I used to be involved in this sector at one time and I know—the level of provision of pipes is 28 percent. All the other assemblies that join these pipes and the connectors—we have all this, and also the equipment, for instance, here in Moscow, at an association that is already making such pipes from polyvinyl chloride.

So we have everything. We have a program. We believe that if we manage to implement, to carry out this plan, we could resolve the problem within 3 years. However, for the time being our society's demand for these pipes is small. I think that the task is not to repeat the situation that occurred with detergents, or other things like paper, where our demand is currently higher than our ability to increase output. We have to create the capacities. The potential for this exists. [passage omitted on damage caused by forest fires, pulp mills in Sakhalin, chemical plants in Odessa]

[Unidentified deputy] Vladimir Kuzmich has been heading this complex since 1986. That is almost 3 years. So I would like to hear in literally three or four sentences what he has done in specific terms in these 3 years to change the situation fundamentally.

[Gusev] I simply considered it awkward to talk about this. I'll reply to you what I've done. It's been 3 years: I was appointed on 19 June 1986. First, the complex and each ministry individually have fulfilled the main technical and economic plans, and the program for the comprehensive provision of chemicals for the national economy has been fully implemented throughout the 3 years of this five year period and this half-year period. But why didn't I mention this? Do you see the paradox? We fulfill the plans. We have exceeded the plan for volume of marketable output to the tune of R3.5 billion over these years. The rates for both productivity and the volume of marketable output have been higher, but the deficit has been growing.

That's what we've achieved. That is the first point. Second, the bureau of the chemical and timber complex, together with the collegiums and enterprises: In the last 3 and ½ years we have gone in a completely different direction with regard to investments. While earlier, as I say, 47 percent of investments—and there was insistence on this—went into new construction, today we are concentrating everything on the fundamental modernization of plants. I could list a very large number of enterprises specifically and tell you what we are doing to modernize them. We are doing the same thing in the timber industry, too; we are adopting the same approaches. However, I must bluntly tell deputies that I am personally not satisfied with my work, the work of the complex and of the ministries. There are really too many problems in the country caused by our shortcomings. Above all, I'll repeat this again, there are shortages. [passage omitted on other deputies voicing complaints]

[Lukyanov] Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov has the floor.

[Ryzhkov] Esteemed comrade deputies! I understand that the discussion of Comrade Gusev's candidacy has today given rise to very heated debate, and the attitude toward him as a specialist and as the head of this, one of the most complex branches in our country, is an ambiguous one. The discussion of his candidacy was similar in the commissions of the Supreme Soviet; comrades have already been saying here that there was a heated debate for about 3 hours. I would like to voice two or three of my own ideas and to express my own attitude.

I agree that this is one of the most complicated branches of the national economy in the country. I want to say that it is one of the most contradictory complexes in our country. One the one hand, the whole of the national economy, those using chemical products, all are with one voice raising the issue that we are short of one product or another. We are short of mineral fertilizers; this is said every year, and when next year (?the agro-industrial complex comes up for discussion in the Supreme Soviet) I imagine it will also be said that there is a shortage of mineral fertilizers. We are short of pesticides, and we are compelled to purchase huge quantities, even though I think that our science owes a debt to the state in this respect. We must obviously find some other ways so that we use fewer herbicides and pesticides in the country. For the time being, however, the actual state of affairs is that agriculture says that we cannot live. I could enumerate the huge number of consumers who say everyday, even today—one says the works has to be shut down, the other says give me paint.

We are lagging behind a lot in the chemical industry. It has come about historically that we really have ended up in this situation, if one speaks from the point of view of world consumption. I think, comrades, that we must regard the chemical industry in the context of the entire national economy. This is the duty of the government and it will, evidently, be the duty of the Supreme Soviet as well.

We cannot today alienate the chemical industry from the whole complex of the national economy and make any specific decisions. We understand that very many problems have accumulated there. They have been accumulating for decades. We did not have our own chemical machine-building industry. We purchased 50 percent of equipment abroad, and we now purchase almost 50 percent and assemble this equipment, which rapidly becomes obsolete. Do not believe that the capitalists are coming to renew our equipment for us, and so on. These contradictions, this mass of contradictions, have become manifest above all in our chemical industry.

There are ecological issues here, too. There is the overconcentration of chemical plants in certain towns. I would like you to consider it attentively. Perhaps it should not be adopted right away, but I would like you to know my opinion. I therefore have a suggestion. I think we must seriously embark on a comprehensive examination of the entire chemical industry in our country. For today, I am aware that it is not a question of Gusev, but of the chemical industry, the development of the chemical industry and the chemical plants of the state. This is the only way I understand it. Clearly, it is from this position that one must regard the matter. We feel that there are many problems there, so let us start an overall examination of these problems. Whomever we appoint, the problems will still be there. If Gusev goes, the problems will still be there, comrades. Therefore I think we should proceed as follows.

We had a program drawn up for the chemicalization of our state. This set out certain levels, set out what levels we were to reach and what we had to do. The situation in the country has changed; it has changed very substantially. Let us, then, perhaps really draw up a whole package of measures. Taking account of the new approach, it could be called a program for chemicalization, or the document could be called something different. Let us take a general look at the chemical industry, at how we are to conduct it in the future. If we are to put a brake on it, then let us make the decision to put a brake on it, but let us in that case make the decision consciously, not spontaneously, not stopping one plant today, another tomorrow, and a third the day after. It must not be done like that. We have all recently regarded the question of the (?Belgorod Vitaminous Concentrate Plant) as an exception, but we must evidently approach this in a comprehensive way, and then we must settle on something, and that will be a program of action. This program must evidently be drawn up in the Council of Ministers and considered in the Supreme Soviet. [bell rings]

I am finishing now, Anatoliy Ivanovich.

The second issue. The second issue is that today many criticisms have been addressed at Comrade Gusev. I was particularly struck by a speech—I beg your pardon, I do not know everyone's surname yet—from the comrade from Bashkiriy the first one. [prompting from hall] Yes, Comrade Sharipov. You know, it is easy to criticize, but if I tell you how Bashkiriya behaved with respect to Blagoveshchensk, if I tell you how Comrade Shakirov complained about me, as chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the general secretary, why are you silent about that? You tried so hard to push that project through; for years you were pushing it through. You complained and wrote official letters complaining that Comrade Ryzhkov was not making the decision. I asked you to wait because we were bargaining with the Japanese and the British, asked you to give us the chance to bargain a bit. We were also conducting a specific policy, including a number of states and a number of firms to engage in bargaining. No! Let's build and that's it. That was how it was. Many people themselves insisted and dragged through these plants, tried to persuade and complained about us. Now, today, you stand up and say that Comrade Gusev is to blame.

The third and final thing: I consider that we should speak about the chemical industry. If we are speaking about Comrade Gusev's candidacy, I stick with my opinion. It is up to you to decide, but I consider him an honest man, a qualified man. He does indeed have shortcomings. He gets most of the stick, so to speak, frankly, from me; every other day he gets it, perhaps. I know his shortcomings; he is a very good man, which is one of his shortcomings. You understand? But he is well-qualified, he knows his job. I know what a hard time he has of it, and how difficult his life is. Therefore, comrades, speaking honestly, I stick to my opinion, and I ask you to back it. [applause]

Gusev Interviewed on Shortages

LD2906175189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Two more deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers were endorsed at the USSR Supreme Soviet session today. Listen to an interview which our correspondent, Vladimir Korablev, had with people's deputy Vladimir Kuzmich Gusev, who was today endorsed in the office of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the office of the USSR Council of Ministers for the Chemical and Timber Complex.

[Begin recording] [Korablev] Vladimir Kuzmich, first of all permit me to congratulate you on your endorsement in the office of deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

[Gusev] Thank you very much.

[Korablev] I saw for myself that in general the endorsement procedure did not go quite as usual and not quite so easy for you. There were a lot of questions, and the deputies made a number of claims—not against you, personally, but against the complex which you will administer. How do you think you will build in a new way the work of the office of the Council of Ministers for the Chemical and Timber Complex?

[Gusev] The examination in the commission and the debates in the USSR Supreme Soviet have made me realize again, more profoundly, the importance of the chemical industry, not just as some kind of production structure, but as to how it relates specifically to people in the oblast, kray, or area in which they live. That is why problems of ecology should occupy a priority role. I think it is from this viewpoint that we must examine all our activity. That's the first and to me perfectly clear problem. But at the same time, we must not be complacent about those deficit situations which are now being shaped or which still remain in our country, things like detergents, furniture, paper, paints and dyes, and chemical fiber. In connection with this, we must without fail seek an answer as to how, under these new ecological conditions, we can build up production. It seems to me, too, that there can only be one answer, and that is, only on the basis of the latest world standards of technology.

[Korablev] Incidentally, you have just touched upon the question of detergents. When will there be a solution to this very topical problem right now, when an abundance of washing powder soaps will be appearing on our counters?

[Gusev] I believe that this should be happening in the third quarter of this year. My argument—what I would call a bold statement—is based on this: In June alone we increased production by 20 percent; that's as much as we always achieved in a whole 5-year plan. And a huge quantity, to our shame, is purchased abroad. That's why supplies are growing considerably, approximately 1.6-1.7 times, and we are just calculating apportionately; I can even name this figure. This year we shall receive, together with imports, 3 million tonnes of detergents.

[Korablev] In other words, practically speaking, this problem will be fully resolved by the end of the year?

[Gysev] It must be, without fail. It cannot but be resolved, otherwise no one will understand what kind of process it is when we don't know where to put all this soap, but I think that the latter won't happen and it really will be on the shelves.

[Korablev] Vladimir Kuzmich, I have another question, and it is this: The deputies have been making a number of serious remarks and comments to the effect that the complex is making a pretty poor job of tackling social questions for its employees. What will be done in relation to this?

[Gusev] The complex is, of course, tackling questions of providing housing and projects of a social, cultural, and everyday nature in what is at the moment an unsatisfactory manner, but at a much higher rate than in the country at large. But, I think we must still find potentials whereby this rate can be increased.

[Korablev] Nikolay Ivanovich [Ryzhkov] said in this speech today that we must now seriously approach the question of the further development of the chemical industry and work out a new program for its development in our country. What can you say on this question?

[Gusev] For all of us in the chemical industry this is a crying necessity in order to change the structure of the national economy. This is an inevitable policy. It is necessary as swiftly as possible. Why? We can only provide 30 percent of medicines—well, now it's 40 percent; that's shameful.

[Korablev] Yes.

[Gusev] The timber industry doesn't have enough newsprint to make several (?piles) of newspapers. What kind of situation is that? It's a disgrace. How much furniture are we short of, and paints! We have more raw material than others, but from this raw material we obtain 2 and ½ to 3 times less production. So we must develop on the basis of new technology—that's the correct decision, not because I am a chemical engineer, or because I am responsible for this, but because the country needs it.

[Korablev] Vladimir Kuzmich, what do you think, if such a program is worked out, in what period in time will we be able to, so to speak, get out of the shackles in the chemical industry which exists at the present time?

[Gusev] Believe me, I am sincere: I think in no more than 5-7 years. Society will simply not give us time for such a growth, but that's reality. [end recording]

Further on 29 Jun Session

LD2906203589

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 29 June, in the Vremya newscast, carries a 10-minute video reportage by correspondent Sergey Medvedev on the 29 June Supreme Soviet proceedings.

Medvedev begins by saying that so far only four deputies of the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers have been endorsed. Each nomination is being discussed in great detail at great length. The video shows Medvedev speaking to the camera while the session is in progress. Today's session, which was chaired by Gorbachev, discussed the nomination of A.P. Biryukova to the post of the deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

"Since her nomination was discussed extensively by five committees and three commissions, it was decided not to hear her policy speech, with the content of which the deputies have been acquainted, but to provide straight away an opportunity for Aleksandra Pavlovna to answer the questions," Medvedev says. The deputies asked many questions which Biryukova is answering. The video shows a session in progress, with camera focusing on Gorbachev seated at the rostrum and talking, Biryukova speaking, then camera panning round the audience. After Biryukova answers the questions, 12 deputies asked to speak. "The tone of the discussion was, as it seemed to us, on the whole amicable and constructive." Biryukova was endorsed by a majority of votes to the post for which she was nominated.

Medvedev continues his reportage by interviewing in the interval deputy Nadezhda Aleksandrovna Kryuchenkova, teacher from Tambov Oblast, who explains why she voted against Biryukova. She says that the person who is in charge of education, which represents the "moral health" of our people, should enjoy the prestige of all subordinated ministers. But during Biryukova's speech at the session of the Council of Ministers, which was relayed by television, not many of the ministers listened to her. Does this indicate the lack of ability to influence people or is it the absence of prestige, asks Kryuchenkova.

Yu.V. Golik, dean of the faculty of law from Kemerovo University, who voted for Biryukova, explains that he voted for Biryukova because he liked her answers, which were specific and to the point.

Video then cuts to Medvedev talking to Lukyanov during the interval

[Medvedev] "Anatoliy Ivanovich, a new work procedure in the endorsement of the composition of the Council of Ministers was adopted today. At issue are personal nominations of the ministers. It has now been proposed to rely on the views of the chairmen of the committees and commissions. We were now talking to a number of deputies. Is there a danger that this might influence the quality of the discussion?"

[Lukyanov] "It seems to me that it will not influence it, all the more so as we are not submitting any new procedure. It has been proposed to conduct matters in such a way as to hear the view of the commissions which provided the conclusion and afterwards the deputies will be free to put their questions and to speak about these nominations. There cannot be any kind of clamping down on democracy, as they say, in this respect. We shall conduct through discussions without restricting time, although this will, of course, take quite a long time."

[Medvedev] "It seems to me that a man who occupies your position should develop apprehensions that the discussion is rather dragging on. After all, the session could go on for a long time. There are very many questions...."

[Lukyanov, interrupting] "We are interested in forming the government as quickly as possible, of course, but on no account to even provide a reason to think that in this respect there could be any restrictions on either democracy or the deputies' opportunity to voice their view on each minister. Because herein lies the superiority of the congress and the Supreme Soviet over the executive bodies. There is simply no other way."

[Medvedev] "According to Nikolay Ivanovich, [Ryzhkov] there are so far nine vacancies in the government. I think that the proposals on the nominations are now being formed. Tell me, is the presidium able to put forward its proposals?"

[Lukyanov] "I think that the main thing is that the deputies put the nominations forward. The presidium should supervise this process and provide an opportunity for each deputy to speak, that means to be a guarantor of our parliamentarian Soviet democracy, which is absolutely necessary in the forming of the government."

[Medvedev] "Thank you."

Medvedev winds up his reportage by briefly outlining the discussion on Gusev's nomination and his policy speech and notes that there was a considerable interest in the hall in his theses. But Deputy Yudin says that a lot of the factual data submitted was not in keeping with the position and policy of Comrade Gusev, and therefore he did not vote for Gusev. However, by a majority vote Gusev was endorsed in the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. "Today's session of the country's Supreme Soviet ended on this point," concludes Medvedev.

Committee Examines Economic Reform

LD2906173889 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent reporting from the Kremlin:

The USSR Supreme Soviet committee on issues of economic reform has formulated its main directions of work as elaborating a concept of radical changes in the Soviet economy, issues of ownership and regional cost-accountancy.

This afternoon, the deputies outlined a plan of their future work. In their view, the country's difficult economic situation brooks no delay in handling many issues.

The committee members are going to hear shortly a report by deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Leonid Abalkin about his view of ways to overcome the crisis.

Soviet MPs [members of parliament] will not listen to the government viewpoint only. Similar reports will be made at the committee by other Soviet economists, which will make it possible to have a full picture of all scientific effort in that area made in the USSR.

In its work, especially in studying draft laws, the committee will invite scientists and research institutes to act as experts.

The deputies are interested in the present state of Soviet foreign trade. Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy premier and chairman of the state foreign economic commission, and Konstantin Katushev, minister of foreign economic relations of the Soviet Union, are to address the committee.

In drafting plans for the future, the committee members do not overlook the fact that already at this parliamentary session they will have to draw a conclusion on the draft law on managing the economy and social sphere in the union republics on the basis of broadening their sovereign rights.

In keeping with the recommendations of the Congress of People's Deputies, they will examine in mid-July, jointly with commissions of both chambers, proposals of republics on expanding their economic independence and the proposals of the Lithuanian and Estonian Supreme Soviets on their transition to cost-accounting in 1990, submitted as legislative initiatives.

30 Jun Supreme Soviet Proceedings Reported

Ministerial Appointments on Agenda

LD3006061689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] The session of the USSR Supreme Soviet is unarguably the most important event in our country. It will continue its work in the Kremlin today. A joint sitting of the two chambers is beginning literally at this moment. There is one point on the agenda: The examination of candidates for ministerial posts.

Doguzhiyev Appointed Deputy Chair

LD3006065889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0616 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Moscow, 30 Jun (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin:

Today's working day of the USSR Supreme Soviet started with a discussion on the candidacy of Vitaliy Doguzhiyev, former minister of general machine building, who is being recommended for the post of deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and leader of a new government body—the State Committee for Extraordinary Events. This post is being created in connection with the fact that recent tragic events—the earthquakes in Armenia and Central Asia, and the rail accident in the Urals—have sharply questioned the coordination of activities among different departments in extreme situations. [passage omitted]

As on previous days Mikhail Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, is chairing today's joint sitting of the chambers.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0630 GMT on 30 June in a similar report adds the following: "The deputies at the Supreme Soviet have approved the candidature of Vitaliy Khusseynovich Doguzhiyev for the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Then the chairman, having secured the support of the deputies, made some changes to the procedure for appointing candidates."]

Doguzhiyev Debates Detailed

LD3006092589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0805 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Moscow, 30 Jun (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin. [passage omitted]

In order to ensure the precise functioning of the government apparatus, the question was decided today on the office of Controller of the Affairs of the Council of Ministers. Mikhail Shkabardnya, 59, who until recently was Minister of Instrument Building, has been endorsed in this office.

The debate on the candidature of Vitaliy Doguzhiyev to the office of Deputy Premier and as head of a new government body—the State Commission on Emergency Situations—did not go on for long. The candidate emphasized that he sees his duties not only in rendering assistance to people in emergency situations, but also in protecting lives in the broadest sense of the word. He spoke with concern about the high number of industrial injuries in the USSR, citing the following figures: The overall number of people fatally injured in industry last year amounted to approximately 14,000, and total injuries were 700,000. Approximately 250,000-260,000 people die every year in the country as a result of accidents, poisoning, and injuries. Using the method of comparison which is adopted in international practice, the candidate said that for every million tonnes of coal extracted in the Soviet Union there are seven times more accidents than in the United States.

Vitaliy Doguzhiyev drew attention to the situation in nuclear power engineering, where the number of power units shut down because of faults by personnel is increasing. He emphasized that these shutdowns were not brought about because of any problems with radiation. In 1987 shutdowns through errors by personnel amounted to 31 percent, and in 1988 the figure was 41 percent. There were five enforced shutdowns in May this year, and, again, two of them were because of errors by personnel.

The candidate's determination to bring about order in this matter ensured him a majority of the deputies' votes.

Shevardnadze Confirmed Foreign Minister

LD3006063489 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0625 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 30 Jun (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin:

Eduard Shevardnadze has today again been confirmed by the Soviet Parliament as USSR minister of foreign affairs.

The vote of confidence was given to him without discussion at the session. The parliament voted unanimously in favor of his candidacy.

Kamentsev Fails To Win Deputy Chair

LD3006085789 Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 30 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The new Soviet parliament had to postpone the confirmation of Vladimir Kamentsev, 61, as a deputy premier and head of the State Foreign Economic Commission until a later date after he failed to win the required majority of votes in the first round of voting today.

By law, a cabinet nominee is to earn at least 272 votes (half of the 542-strong Supreme Soviet plus one vote) to be endorsed

Kamentsev, currently in charge of the nation's foreign economic activities, was accused by many deputies of serious blunders in this field and failed to gain this number of votes, even if supported by most of the present law-makers (246 votes for, 97 against and 56 abstentions).

Debate on Candidacy Detailed

LD3006103689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0938 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 30 Jun (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin: There was an unexpected end today to the USSR Supreme Soviet session debate on Vladimir Kamentsev's candidature to the office of deputy head of the government and chairman of the State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers: The parliament was forced to postpone a decision on this question.

Despite the fact that the candidate was supported by a majority of those deputies who attended the session (246), he did not obtain the required majority from the overall number of deputies (no less than 272).

During the debate on the candidature of Vladimir Kamentsev, who was formerly in charge of foreign economic activity, many deputies were very critical of his work. The candidate was criticized for the sale of oil, gas, and other raw material assets without taking account of the interests of the country's future. Examples were cited of inconsistent decisions which hampered the reform of foreign economic relations. Doubts were expressed about the candidate's competence.

Meanwhile, in his opening speech, Vladimir Kamentsev would appear to have cited a number of positive examples. For instance, enterprises which enjoy the right to direct access to the market obtained about R1.6 billion freely convertible currency in 1987-88. He admitted that the USSR's proportion of world trade amounts to only 4 percent, and raw materials make up 60 percent of its exports. But at the same time he added that in the next few years it is planned to reorganize the structure of Soviet trade turnover and to increase the proportion of ready-made output in the country's exports to 60 percent, chiefly through the accelerated development of machine-building and the chemical-timber complex.

Vladimir Kamentsev noted that the achievement of convertibility of the Soviet ruble will be possible in the second half of the nineties. For this it is necessary to develop commodity-money markets and to stabilize the finance and credit system in the USSR. The nominee reported that the conception of free economic zones in the USSR presupposes not the sale of a part of the territory, but the making use of foreign capital for developing particular regions of the country. The possibility is now being examined of setting up these zones in the Soviet Far East and in the area of Vyborb (North-West USSR).

Answering a question about foreign countries' indebtedness to the Soviet Union, Vladimir Kamentsev said that it amounts to R87.5 billion including more than R20 billion in freely convertible currency. Its clearance is carried out not only by cash payments, but also through the deliveries of various goods and services from the debtor-countries to the USSR.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke in support of Vladimir Kamentsev's nomination. The head of government stressed the contradictory nature of the present situation in foreign trade, when, on the one hand, one should not sell oil, gas and other natural resources, but on the other, the country's immediate needs in imports have to be provided for. He reported that this year approximately 44 million tonnes of grain will have to be purchased with payment in freely convertible currency. Replying to the comments that resounded in the speeches, Nikolay Ryzhkov again stated the need for a very careful approach to the question of credits so that the country would not get into an even more serious situation in the future. Nikolay Ryzhkov spoke about the positive things that had been achieved in the foreign economic sphere thanks to Vladimir Kamentsev.

The speech by the head of government would appear to have convinced some of the deputies—as already mentioned, the majority voted for the candidate. In accordance with the law, however, parliament will have to have a repeat vote, when there are more deputies. At the morning session today there were only just over 400 of the 542 members of the Supreme Soviet.

Abalkin Answers Questions on Economy 28 Jun

PM2906141489 Moscow TRUD in Russian 29 Jun 89 pp 1-2

[TASS report on 28 June sitting of First USSR Supreme Soviet Session, chaired by M.S. Gorbachev: "At the First USSR Supreme Soviet Session"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A proposal was submitted to appoint L.I. Abalkin deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

L.I. Abalkin was given the platform to answer deputies' written questions.

I would like to say a few words about my position, so that you know for whom and what you will be voting, he told the deputies.

Today we have in our economy a gap of R100 billion between state income and expenditure. But even now we are beginning to share out for other purposes the money we have decided to save by, for instance, cutting military expenditure and reducing the volume of capital investments in the production sphere. In my view, he went on, this money cannot be shared out. It must be written off to reduce the state budget deficit. If we do not do this, then after soap and washing powder, something else will disappear from the stores. We will constantly have waiting lines and coupons. Unless we eliminate the budget deficit and go over to new management methods, we will constantly be patching holes and never sewing ourselves a suit worthy of such a great country. I think that if you entrust me with government work I will pursue this line, realizing that this is the key to the resolution of our problems.

Second. We are asking the government to tackle all the questions in each specific sphere, in each village. We are pushing the government back—to the distribution of resources and the administrative edict system that everyone criticized.

We must be firm and consistent here. You must decide in what direction you want the government to act, in what direction you want me to act as the government member to whom it is proposed to entrust leadership of these questions of reform.

L.I. Abalkin then went on to answer the written questions. A number of them concerned measures to strengthen economic accountability responsibility in the grass-roots components of the labor collectives. He spoke in detail about economic measures and effective, well considered methods that could, in his opinion, hold back the colossal snowball of increasing monetary income.

Speaking about the leveling out of purchase and retail prices, the candidate member of the government doubted that it is possible in the remaining 18 months [of the 5-year plan] to do this, and entirely to abandon the use of budget funds for the purchase of agricultural produce. That will take longer than 18 months, but we must get there eventually. The speaker noted that together with the whole of our economic science, he does not deny his own responsibility for the difficulties that exist in the Soviet economy. It is a fact that the economy has lagged behind restructuring processes, he stressed.

A number of deputies inquired about the course of preparations for the republics' transition to economic accountability. A major discussion of these questions lies ahead, L.I. Abalkin said. Various approaches must be studied. As for my own view, I believe that the draft all-union law is an enormous, revolutionary step forward, although not everyone agrees with that. In accordance with the draft all-union law, the entire agro-industrial complex, light industry, trade and public catering, and municipal services go over to the full control of the union republics. These are complex questions involving very broad rights. It is envisaged that the construction or expansion of enterprises on a republic's territory will not be able to take place without the consent of republican organs. All enterprises under local, republican, and union jurisdiction will make direct contributions to local budgets. A fundamentally new model of the formation of a republic's budget is emerging; we have never seen the like before.

This is an enormous step forward, it is our future. We must have a clear and precise program, realizing that this is only the first step, albeit a very large step.

Deputies drew attention to what is, in their opinion, a serious contradiction in this program: The management of consumer goods production is handed over, for the most part, to republics and regions, while the distribution of output via the state order is left with central organs. How can this contradiction be resolved, given the insufficient saturation of the commodity market?

I see no contradiction here, L.I. Abalkin said. It is true that historically, over the decades, a unionwide division of labor has grown up. Certain flows develop accordingly. For each republic, what it has to supply to the all-union stocks, and in what quantities, is specified. After that it is up to you, produce what you like. This is a version of the Leninist idea of taxation in kind.

Taking into account the unionwide division of labor, a reverse flow is envisaged, in the means of production, energy resources, machines, and equipment.

The next question is on socialist competition under present-day conditions, what form it should take, and whether it is necessary at all.

In the form in which it has become established, it was said in reply, socialist competition has acquired features of formalism and show, and it caused nothing but irritation and played no role in life. But competition as an economic phenomenon, as an element of the economic system of socialism; competition for the consumer, for the better satisfaction of his needs; competition for the better utilization of the propoerty of the whole people, for its efficient utilization—this is a necessary component of our economic system. In this form, it is associated with the functioning of the socialist market.

Touching on problems of banking activity, the speaker stressed, answering questions, that in the majority of countries the central bank is not subordinate to the government, but to the highest legislative body. Although there are other options. In Britain, for instance, the state bank is subordinate to the government.

The main thing now, the speaker stressed, is to adopt a major law on banks and the banking system, which should define very clearly the autonomy and independence of the bank and its functions.

Some questions expressed the deputies' desire to learn L.I. Abalkin's attitude toward other economists' speeches at the congress and the session. The government program and the reform program, he said, is an open program willing to accept all that is best and of value, regardless of where a given idea comes from, from whom or from what country. Everything that is of value, sensible, and useful should be put in the common melting pot and incorporated in the acceleration mechanism.

Speaking about priorities in the agrarian sector, L.I. Abalkin expressed the opinion that formerly we allowed very substantial onesidedness to occur, whereby one economic reform was implemented in industry and construction, and another in the agro-industrial sector. The economy is a single whole. The principles of reform should be the same throughout the national economy.

The main thing for the agrarian sector now, he said, is not to increase appropriations for its development, but really to change economic relations and grant the freedom to choose forms of economic management, forms of ownership, and spheres of application of labor without any coercion in this matter and without any attempt to find one universal model for all regions and all conditions.

The main thing, the speaker stressed, is to convert economic autonomy into economic resources. This is particularly important for the countryside.

How do the reduction and elimination of the state budget deficit fit in at the level of Soviet people's lives? L.I. Abalkin stressed that the state budget deficit could be eliminated in two ways. First, by cutting expenditure; second, by increasing income. In the whole of its history mankind has not devised any other method. And we will only live better if we work better.

I think, he added, that given very persistent work and unity of approaches and actions by all organs of state leadership, we will be able to resolve the problems of forming a socialist market, and soon after, the convertibility of the ruble. In the meantime, we are not living any worse than we are working.

Deputies asked L.I. Abalkin to express his attitude to the position of certain ministries that have failed to exploit imported equipment worth hundreds of millions of foreign currency rubles. What measures are required to prevent a repetition of this?

This arouses enormous indignation, he said in reply. However, it is a manifestation of the general malaise of the economic management system. When I pay for things with someone else's money, my purchases will be left to rust.

In reply to a question on what the prospects for the republics' entry into the system of international division of labor were, the academician stressed that there are various aspects of this problem. The first concerns the entry of the Soviet Union itself into the international divison of labor, the adjustment of its place and role in the international division of labor, and the gradual abandonment of the country's role as a raw material supplier. From being a raw material supplier, it must be turned into a country that can participate in the international division of labor with high-technology processing industry output. There are problems in involving our enterprises, especially major associations, in the international division of labor. There are also problems in involving the republics in the international division of labor. On these questions we must follow the path of defining the fundamental principles.

A group of questions touched on the government's responsibility for the state of the economy. The present composition of the government, the speaker said in reply, is assuming its powers during a period that is exceptional in the history of the Soviet land. The atmosphere is extraordinary. In the last 18 months the economic situation in the country has deteriorated with every month. Therefore a mandate of confidence in the government also means giving it the right to carry out resolute and perhaps even emergency measures within the law.

It is very difficult to lead the normalization process. But society cannot wait long. The reserve of confidence is melting away; it is not endless. So 18 months to 2 years—that is the time in which the economy must be normalized. I think harmonious, joint work is needed here. I entirely agree with what N.I. Ryzhkov said yesterday: The law must make provision, on the one hand, for the Supreme Soviet's right to raise the question of a vote of confidence in the government. And on the other, it must grant the government the right to resign.

Can we, at the present time—on the verge of a food disaster—go on talking about the achievements and advantages of the collective farm [kolkhoz] system? Answering this question, the speaker agreed that certain gloomy chapters in our history are also associated with the kolkhoz movement. There are modern kolkhozes, he noted, that have absolutely no desire to disband. And they must not be broken up. If they want to remain, let them remain; if they do not want to, let them break up. In the academician's opinion, different, diverse forms of economic management and various versions of their development should coexist objectively.

The speaker also answered many other questions.

M.S. Gorbachev, who was in the chair, invited deputies to discuss L.I. Abalkin's candidacy. [passage omitted]

Abalkin on Relations With Ryzhkov, New Position

LD2906185989 Moscow World Service in English
0310 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Interview with Leonid Abalkin, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, by unidentified correspondent; date, place not given—Abalkin remarks recorded in Russian with superimposed English translation; correspondent's questions read by announcer]

[Text] [Announcer] As he submitted a new cabinet list for discussion to the ongoing parliamentary session in Moscow, Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov announced six candidate ministers that have been voted down by parliamentary committee and commissions. Considering the fact that the list of candidates was compiled in advance the question arises as to whether this signalled a mistake in the coice or a high degree of exactingness on the part of the deputies. Our reporter has put this question to Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Abalkin who passed the preliminary discussion successfully. Dr Abalkin observed.

[Abalkin] During the past months life has changed considerably, adding acuteness to problems and setting additional requirements before the officials. Today's leader must show a high degree of civic responsibility in addition to his professional skills, and what's most important he must be a broadminded personality. Besides, a leader has to be a good mixer, capable of moving crowds and impressing newsmen.

Only a year ago the requirements were far less tough but today one has to meet them all to be able to perform efficiently. And I must add we had some difficulty in changing together with this dynamic world.

[Announcer] Our reporter asked Dr Abalkin if Prime Minister Ryzhkov had been free to choose candidates for the posts of his deputies and for the cabinet. Leonid Abalkin replied in the affirmative.

[Abalkin] Yes, he was absolutely free and enjoyed great authority, but Nikolay Ryzhkov is no god and he can make mistakes. Considering the current degree of democracy in Soviet society I (?say) the parliamentary committee performed with brilliance, since a variety of factors like interethnic relations, ecological problems, and others influenced the choice of candidates considerably. On the whole I think the prime minister has nominated worthy candidates and placed the key figures within the cabinet structure correctly. Miscalculations in a task as difficult as that are always inevitable.

[Announcer] [words indistinct] there must be good understanding between Dr Abalkin and Prime Minister Ryzhkov as Abalkin had been invited and agreed to become a deputy premier. On the other hand he is expected to be more than a mere deputy and perform as a scientific coordinator on the work of the government and its branch formations. Should Dr Abalkin have differences with the prime minister on certain points, how does he think their further relations may develop?

[Abalkin] I'll be responsible for a very specific range of issues, namely those dealing with economic reform. To a minor degree I'll be involved in work to alter the management structure. Problems of the latter kind were raised at this parliamentary session already and will probably make themselves felt more than once in the future. Right now I can't make any predictions as to my apparatus' performance since I've never worked in the apparatus before. In this respect the rest of the government members have an advantage over me.

As far as my relationships with Nikolay Ryzhkov are concerned we've already got used to having and defending views of our own. It's common knowledge the government involves the Institute of Economics, of which I used to be director until recently, in the work of drafting a concept of economic restructuring. We've proved to differ with Nikolay Ryzhkov on some points specifically on the role of state (?organs) in industrial production, but this didn't prevent the prime minister from inviting me to joint the cabinet.

While discussing his proposition we agreed on a particular point, too. He understands we may have differences on some issues but he believes it's quite normal. We don't have to start arguing over who's clever or who's the boss. We'd rather combine our efforts in the common interest; in a word, although I'm expecting many difficulties, I am absolutely convinced they will in no way stem from my relationships either with the prime minister or with other cabinet members or the presidium. I could add Nikolay Ryzhkov is one of the few people I know who displays an in-depth precise and comprehensive understanding of the economic, social, and ethnic problems facing the country. I respect him, although we've had and may yet have differences on certain points.

Ryzhkov Interviewed; Agrees on Market Criticism

LD2906155689 Moscow World Service in English
1500 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The USSR Supreme Soviet, which continues the work of forming a new Soviet government has offered a cabinet post to the first and evidently the only lady minister. [passage omitted]

In an interview between the sittings a Radio Moscow reporter wondered how Nikolay Ryzhkov accepted the critical remarks addressed to the government by people's deputies. The prime minister observed the national [as heard] was facing many serious problems today and considerable efforts would be taken to cope with them. He described as a major achievement the notable increase in the scale of housing construction over the past few years. However, deputies had voiced dissatisfaction with the state of things in this area since much work still lay ahead. Nikolay Ryzhkov fully agreed with the critical assessments of the present day condition of the consumer market and said a program of measures had been worked out to stabilize labor efficiency, output of goods and people's incomes. The prime minister admitted he wasn't particularly happy to hear the government criticized but he hoped the strong and active Supreme Soviet would help the country achieve a higher pace of development.

Ryzhkov Discusses Market Problems, Other Issues

LD3006210489 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Ryzhkov remarks recorded in Russian fading into superimposed English translation]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet continues discussing nominations for cabinet posts. A Radio Moscow reporter has asked Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzkov what he thinks of the debates?

[Ryzhkov] A crucial exchange of opinion is under way in the Supreme Soviet. In fact, problems of national importance are on the agenda, today they have surfaced at last. The deputies tell the candidates everything what is on their mind and the candidates in turn explain their understanding of how these problems can be solved. To my mind, they have been doing so with success. The nation has many problems indeed and it is clear that a great deal has to be done to resolve them. In the first place the Supreme Soviet itself will have to work hard to draft economic plans.

[Reporter] Delegates to the Congress of People's Deputies and the members of the Supreme Soviet have often criticized the Council of Ministers. Does the prime minister agree with all the critical remarks?

[Ryzhkov] I have already said in my report at the congress that we've made considerable progress in developing the social base, for instance in building homes and child care facilities. Although the favorable changes have been drowned in criticism I would like to recall that housing construction has been up 15 percent. Throughout the previous three 5-year periods we failed to make any progress in that field. We made the first major breakthrough in housing construction in the middle of the current 5-Year Plan period. There have been favorable changes in building child care facilities and hospitals. True, the drawbacks were very serious and it's only natural that the deputies are highly critical. As for the criticism of the consumer market, the deputies are right, too. The Soviet consumer market is imbalanced and it is one of our major targets to put it in order. For this we must increase production and have effective means to control wages and salaries. We believe that any person can earn as much as possible, but each ruble must have an equivalent of commodity otherwise it would be impossible to control the market. It's clear that money not supported by production leads to shortages, lines, and other ills. Today we are faced with a shortage of goods and an upsurge in people's incomes, that was most clearly seen in the middle of last year. In the subseqent 5 months people's incomes grew by 12 percent while labor productivity by 5 percent and production by a mere 2 percent. This means that we failed to find ways of establishing a balance.

[Reporter] Another question to Nikolay Ryzhkov. Will the government find it easier to work together with the current Supreme Soviet than with the one we had before, which obeyed all orders? Is it difficult to be the head of a government that has been formed through such selection? Prime Minister Ryzhkov.

[Ryzhkov] I am absolutely certain that it will be much easier for the government to work with the Supreme Soviet we have today. The reason is that the Supreme Soviet will willy-nilly have to make decisions. For instance the Council of Ministers has been criticized for a great number of resolutions; personally I want less resolutions, but in that case there must be appropriate legislation. I am confident that it will be much easier for us to work with a new Supreme Soviet. True, there will be a great deal of debating and argument, but from the standpoint of working out a common policy to run the nation we shall make faster progress. I support the discussion procedure. At the same time I cannot say I am very happy to listen to criticism addressed to myself and my government for weeks on end. Apparently this is the plight of the current cabinet. We need a strong Supreme Soviet as much as we need a strong goverment. A weak government will spell national disaster, because all laws enacted by parliament will be suspended.

Impressions of 26 Jun Supreme Soviet Session

PM3006104789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 89 Second Edition pp 1-2

[M. Buzhkevich, G. Ovcharenko report: "Times of Change. At the First Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Frankly speaking, we had not expected on Monday [26 June] that the report of the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers on the candidacies for the composition of the government would evoke such a stormy discussion. After all, this question had already been discussed in the committees and commissions. Nonetheless, the 35-minute report by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov triggered an almost 2-hour long barrage of questions. We will discuss the questions later. To begin with let us focus on what attracted attention in the report.

First, its respectful, businesslike attitude toward the opinion of committee and commission members who discussed beforehand the candidacies to the high state posts. Six of the candidacies failed to gain the deputies' support, and so the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers deemed it impossible to submit them for discussion by the Supreme Soviet. For three posts no candidacies at all had been submitted. Could no one worthy of the post of chairman of the State Committee for Protection of the Environment, for instance, be found? N.I. Ryzhkov said: This post was offered to four scientists, people who are highly respected in the country. They turned it down.

This, too, is a positive sign of the changes that are taking place. It is evidence of the high sense of responsibility, something that people only talked about before. Its emergence is not fortuitous, however, each candidate, mindful of the grim and exacting test for power to which other comrades have been subjected in committees and commissions, was obviously aware that the times of irresponsibility are gone. The people, through their deputies, will no longer tolerate money being buried thoughtlessly, or out of short-term considerations, in "projects of the century," spent on the unnecessary diversion of rivers, or left to rot, together with dumped timber, in the taiga. Yes, the time has come to take decisions and to answer for them. Not everyone is up to this, as has been revealed. Some people have grasped it by themselves, others were made to understand by the people's deputies. We all may rest assured: In the new composition of the government there will be no hangers-on.

Now about the questions which were asked of N.I. Ryzhkov. There is probably no need to list them here, nor the answers that were given. A fairly detailed TASS report on the joint sitting of the chambers has been published. We will merely convey general impressions: The work of the Supreme Soviet session is gradually entering the channel of true parliamentarism. That indicates that we did not make many mistakes in our choice of deputies. They have proved to be good pupils. This was also noted by Anatoliy Karpov, former world chess champion and head of the Peace Fund. That is to say, with one reservation:

"Elements of meetings' democracy are still in evidence in the session proceedings," he said, "deputies frequently depart from the agenda."

There is no denying that. N.I. Ryzhkov, too, was asked questions that were not to the point, as it were. For instance, questions about the program for the development of the Far East, about the serious ecological situation in a number of cities, drivers' wages, or methods of felling trees. Important questions? No doubt. But with little bearing on the agenda which was, after all, the formation of the government!

Sometimes it bordered on the bizarre. One of the women deputies got up and demanded rather categorically that her male colleagues should come to sittings wearing ties. We do not believe that the introduction of this kind of etiquette would have a bearing on the standard of the debate. Some speakers, even if they wore a bow tie and tails, would be unlikely to enrich the debate.

Apart from this kind of diversion, the discussion of N.I. Ryzhkov's report turned into a serious and keen exchange of opinions. Some speakers held that some of the structural changes to the government are rash and scientifically unfounded.

Developing this theme, another deputy tended toward the view that by no means all the decisions that are being adopted by the government and the Supreme Soviet are justified. In his opinion that is precisely what happened to the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources. There were many heated discussions around this ministry in the press, at numerous rallies, and at the Congress of USSR People's Deputies. However, having decided to transform this ministry into the Ministry of Water Resources Construction, the government is proposing to suspend the construction of a considerable number of irrigation projects with a view to subsequently handing them over to collective and state farms which are to complete the construction of the projects on the basis of self-financing and self-provision [samoobespecheniye]. A logical question arises: Where will the farms find the resources?

It is possible to share the misgivings of a number of deputies in respect of the effectiveness of the discussion on the introduction of draft amendments to the Law on the USSR Council of Ministers. It was rightly noted that the commissions could not elaborate the draft in depth because there was no time. As one of the deputies said, the Supreme Soviet has no option but to pass the submitted draft as a palliative for the moment and to prepare a new law on the government for the next session of the USSR Supreme Soviet which will define clearly the sphere of the government's duties and specify the expenditure necessary for its upkeep.

Probably one of the most fraught moments of the debate was the discussion of the fate of the Ministry of Culture. Yes, yes, the question of the expediency of its existence arose unexpectedly. First, Deputy Peters, chairman of the Latvian Writers Union Board, asked N.I. Ryzhkov whether culture should be managed from the center. Will not the center oppress national cultures? Then Deputy Gudaytis, the Lithuanian writer, developed this thought, saying that the management of the development of culture should be solely within the competence of the republics.

This stance met with serious, fundamental objections. The deputies rightly perceived in it a desire to disrupt the multitude of ties which link the cultures of the people of the Land of the Soviets, putting them in great jeopardy. It is appropriate to recall the words of B. Oleynik, deputy chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, who only a day before this debate remarked wisely that for any people the most terrible isolation is national isolation. The deputies said quite rightly that any educated Soviet citizen cannot imagine spiritual life without the capital's Tretyakov Gallery, the Leningrad Hermitage, and the Yerevan Matenadaran. Culture is the great flow of human spirituality which is fed by brooks and whole rivers of national literatures and arts, and the people's creativity.. One is unthinkable without the other. In their intermingling is life itself.

A. Melikov, the Azerbaijan composer, put it succinctly: Do not deprive us masters of culture of the Ministry of Culture. Both USSR Supreme Soviet chambers indicated their agreement with his proposal by their vote.

It seemed that the 3d day of the USSR Supreme Soviet session would be a quiet one. After all, as M.S. Gorbachev stressed as he opened yesterday's sitting, after the preceding heated debates the discussion of the structure of the USSR Council of Ministers had been completed. In actual fact, the discussion of the candidacy of L.A. Voronin for the post of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers did not take long. The candidate himself was to "blame" for this. Without waiting for questions, he asked to be given the floor for a few minutes, and keeping within the time limit, incidentally, set out his program point by point, precisely. Equally briefly and competently Lev Alekseyevich answered all the questions, even those which were not part of his sphere of competence. He said on this subject:

"If the deputies are appointing me as first deputy, it means that I have to be informed about everything."

The deputies elected L.A. Voronin by an overwhelming majority of votes.

We will allow ourselves a brief digression here. It is necessary to convey the atmosphere in which the session is taking place. It has been claimed that everything is taking place in accordance with a scenario that was prepared in advance, that the will of the deputies is not always taken into account, that democratic principles are not always observed. Let us assure you that this is not so.

First, the agenda has been approved by the Supreme Soviet, so it is not a question of a "scenario" but of standing orders which simply have to be abided by. Second, as for democracy, we shall cite just one episode for the sake of clarity. M.S. Gorbachev, who was in the chair, read out a memorandum submitted by three deputies who were proposing that the procedure for confirming government members be simplified and accelerated. Specifically, they suggested that only candidacies which give rise to doubts or differences during the Supreme Soviet committee and commission hearings should be discussed. Most deputies rejected this proposal. The reason is that a substantial section of deputies are not members of any committees or commissions, and so, to ensure that no mistakes are made during the vote, all the people's representatives must have an opportunity to obtain a clear idea as to the stance of the candidates for government posts. This decision does not only indicate the democratic atmosphere which reigns at the session but also reflects the great sense of responsibility with which most deputies approach the formation of the new USSR Council of Ministers.

The discussion of the candidacy of Yu.D. Maslyukov for the post of first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee [Gosplan] took considerably longer. This was probably due to the dissatisfaction which has built up in society in respect of the past work of this planning organ. It is true that many of the troubles which beset our economy are linked to the lack of equilibrium in planning. So it was no accident when Deputy N. Amosov from Kiev asked the candidate a question that was somewhat below the belt, so to speak:

"Yuriy Dmitriyevich, since 1982 you have occupied high posts," the deputy said. "Is it possible to link the fiascos in our economy with your name?"

"Since 1982 I have upheld the interests of the defense industry in various posts, which meant upsetting the equilibrium of the economy to some extent," Yu.D. Maslyukov replied. "Now I am being nominated for a seat at the other end of the 'seesaw.' After all, I have the knowledge with which to restore the equilibrium which I helped to upset earlier."

The deputies liked the candidate's resourcefulness. Applause not allowed for in the parliamentary code of etiquette rang out. But he had little time for jokes after that. Questions concerning the most serious problems of the national economy came thick and fast. Yu.D. Maslyukov answered in worthy fashion and with competence. It was possible to deduce from his answers that serious changes are in store in the work of the Gosplan and its mutual relations with the USSR Council of Ministers and the country's Supreme Soviet. It seems that given the support of parliamentary committees and commissions, this will produce positive results. Members of the chambers appointed Yu.D. Maslyukov first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the country's Gosplan.

The discussion of the candidacy of L.I. Abalkin to the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers for economic reform attracted special interest. That is understandable: This post is being introduced for the first time, and for the first time it is being offered to an academician, a prominent scientist and economist. His program to improve the economy met with support among most of the deputies. Its essence, briefly, lies in utilizing multifaceted forms of ownership, developing the independence of labor collectives, discarding administrative-edict methods of management, and sensibly combining the interests of the center and the regions in order to develop the people's economic initiative and make them masters of the economy. And a real master is always zealous and will not work to his own detriment.

Then came the question: What has independence to offer those spheres which do not produce material values—education, for instance? Leonid Ivanovich proposed several options for solving this problem. He recalled A. Makarenko's commune, for instance, which was materially totally independent and at the same time produced excellent educational results. He also recalled A. Makarenko's prophetic words: Economic accountability is better and more profitable than receiving a budget. Economic accountability is tantamount to graduating from two pedagogical institutes, it is an excellent educator.

A deputy from Turkmenia wanted to know L.I. Abalkin's attitude toward the idea of a special government resolution on the development of a health resort zone on the banks of the Caspian Sea. The academician replied: If, despite our penury, people are hoping for budget appropriations, the solution of this question will drag on for decades. But there is a way out: Local soviets must display initiative in establishing joint stock companies and attracting resources from large and small enterprises, cooperatives, and even involving foreign capital.

In our opinion this approach is the answer to many local problems. After all, ultimately it is not possible to place the whole burden of these problems on the shoulders of the government.

Academician L.I. Abalkin was unanimously elected to the post which he had been offered.

I.S. Belousov, candidate for the post of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers for the military-industrial complex, had to answer some complex questions. Until recently this sector of the economy was closed to broad discussion even in the USSR Supreme Soviet. Now the picture has radically changed. The deputies together with I.S. Belousov examined the military-industrial complex' spending and its activities from all angles.

The candidate for this high post was visibly nervous and frequently addressed the Presidium rather than the floor. The deputies reacted promptly to this by sending a memorandum asking whether this did not reflect excessive servility to superiors.

Igor Sergeyevich paused for a while and then admitted with disarming candor: He had never before been so nervous, so agitated as on this rostrum. The deputies showed understanding, they grasped that this nervousness stemmed from a sense of responsibility for the task in question. By an overwhelming majority of votes they elected him deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Our readers are already aware that there will now be no direct relays from the Kremlin during daytime. Television will report the session proceedings in its evening transmissions. Judging by the telephone calls to the editorial office, people are not too happy about this, especially since the transmissions continue until late at night. What is the deputies' attitude to this? It varies. Deputy Yu. Borodin, chairman of the Committee for the Protection of People's Health, welcomes this step in view of the fact that much working time was lost in the national economy during the proceedings of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and the first days of the Supreme Soviet session: People stopped working and sat in front of television sets or loudspeakers. This appears to be a cogent and sensible reason. But here is another opinion: Deputy V. Belyayev, dean of the Moscow Engineering and Physics Institute, believes that this decision lowers the level of glasnost in the work of the supreme organ of power to some extent. And this, he argues, will have a negative impact on the politicization of life in the country and the course of restructuring itself. Time will show where the truth lies.

...In the evening when the noticeably tired deputies were leaving the Supreme Soviet chambers' hall of sessions, we wanted to to catch Vladimir Pavlovich Nuzhnyy. We did not succeed. However, we believe that he already knows exactly how he will reply to his fellow countrymen. The main point is not that the very principle of the formation of organs of state power is changing, that deputies' approach to their work and their attitude toward their powers is changing. The main point is that we ourselves are changing. And changing for the better.

Committees, Commissions Discuss Candidacies

LD2406153689 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 24 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent reporting from the Kremlin:

More openness in statistics, less secrecy in information and a better correlation between national statistics and the generally accepted world practice was called for by prominent Soviet scientist Vadim Kirichenko. He was speaking today before the committee on economic reform of the USSR Supreme Soviet during the discussion of his candidature for head of the State Committee of the USSR for Statistics.

Kirichenko said that a negative attitude to statistics was at present at a critical point. "In order to restore trust in it, it is necessary, first of all, to ensure protection of this agency from pressure on the part of different other agencies," he said. The candidate also advocated the possibility for alternative organizations which are not part of the country's chief statistical service to conduct some independent research.

The heated debate of the programme outlined by Kirichenko was aptly summarized by Deputy Pavel Bunich, a well-known Soviet economist. He noted that the proposal to appoint Vadim Kirichenko is fully in accord with the general desire to see professionals in the country's key posts. The parliamentarians agreed with this and adopted the recommendation for the session of the Supreme Soviet which is due to resume next week to confirm the appointment.

The situation was reversed at the joint session of the committees and the commission of the chambers which assembled to discuss the candidature of Vladimir Gribov for the post of the chairman of the board of the State Bank of the USSR. A keen and penetrating discussion lasted for more than two hours. The heightened interest of the deputies in the candidate for the post is understandable: The critical situation in the country's finance calls for a radical enhancement of the role, independence and autonomy of the State Bank. It must become, not in name alone but in its very substance, the country's chief bank capable of wielding purely economic methods to determine the policies of the country's entire monetary system which is to include also various commercial joint-stock banks. In other words, the traditional ideas concerning the State Bank must be radically reviewed which poses great demands on the bank's head.

Vladimir Gribov failed to satisfy the deputies that he would be able to cope and his candidature was turned down. The deputies pointed out that the programme presented by Gribov lacked the main thing—a well thought-out concept of action. Incidentally, a similar conclusion had been drawn a few days previously by the Committee on Planning, Budget and Finance of the Council of the Union, one of the Soviet parliament's two chambers.

The discussion of the new Soviet Council of Ministers is nearing completion in the committees of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet. This past week every member of the Council of Ministers has had to stand the first gruelling test of their competence and conformity to the spirit of the time. It is well to recall that as compared to the former cabinet, formed in 1984, this one is 90 percent new. Every candidate was subjected to a close, comprehensive, and, what is most important, not formal [as received], scrutiny. The upcoming session of the Supreme Soviet will finally confirm the appointees.

Youth Affairs Committee Holds News Conference

LD2506174589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] The newly created Committee on Youth Affairs of the USSR Supreme Soviet has held its first news conference. Over to our correspondent (Yuliya Pelekhova).

[Pelekhova] The creation of this committee is not a political improvization but a completely legitimate and logical conclusion to the program being conducted by the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth Leaque [Komsomol] Central Committee to implement the officially recognized state policy on youth in the country. Another component of this program is the radical restructuring in the Komsomol, which you will agree is inherently impossible without radical changes in the backdrop against which this political youth organization—for the moment the principal such organization—operates. It is envisaged that youth programs will be formulated and that a law on young people will be developed; but the main thing is the committee's work in the Supreme Soviet. This is how Valeriy Tsybukh, chairman of the committee, defined the essence of this work:

[Begin Tsybukh recording] The Supreme Soviet Committee on Youth Affairs seems to us to be a committee—a state committee—which will regulate, by legal mechanisms, the mutual relations between the state and the young person, and vice-versa. That is, it will implement the state's youth policy on the basis of our laws, according to which we live, and which we will work out together. [end recording]

[Pelekhova] All would seem to be logical, just as the need for such a structure to exist in the Supreme Soviet no longer gives anyone cause for doubt. At the congress, however, that was not how things stood, and the creators of the committee came up against considerable difficulties, to use their words. Is this because the Committee on Youth Affairs to some extent represents the contrasting of youth problems and adult ones, and is a recognition of the contradiction which exists between different generations? To be honest, when I asked this question at the press conference, I expected objections, but this is how Viktor Mironenko, first secretary of the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee, reacted to this:

[Begin Mironenko recording] In my view, the point is that such a contradiction really exists; it exists in life, and it will always exist. I would be very loath to see this contradiction ever disappear. The contradiction between certain interests of young people, the new generation which is starting life, and the vital interests of the adult generation which has already established itself in life, is in my view the motive force of new ideas, new thoughts, new proposals; all in all, the motive force of development.

However, there is in fact both contradiction and unity here. It is simply a matter of its mutual relationship and combination. Failure to recognize this contradiction, and the reduction of it to unity alone—according to which, as you will recall all is well, young people are held dear, and the old are always honored everywhere in our country—therein lies, in my opinion, a theoretical precondition. But it now seems to me that assertions, to the effect that we are contrasting young people with all other categories, represent nothing other than very clumsy attempts at a refusal to recognize this contradiction which really exists in life. [end recording]

Correction to Lapygin Security Group Interview

WA3006120089

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Lapygin Interviewed on Security Chairmanship," published in the 23 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages 41-44:

page 43, column two, paragraph nine, sentence two make read: ...(19 people out of 33). Individual deputies even suggested... (changing second figure from'38' to'33').

Budapest TV Interviews Yeltsin on Restructuring

LD2906202589 Budapest MTI in English 2027 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Text] Budapest, June 28 (MTI)—On Wednesday evening "Panorama," the world political kaleidoscope on Hungarian Television, broadcast an interview with Boris Yeltsin, member of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The reporter asked the Soviet politician what programme could lead the Soviet Union out of its difficulties.

Yeltsin: "We need an extraordinary programme. I've been pressing for extraordinary economic measures. Our financial situation should be improved, the exchange rate of the rouble raised, and devaluation halted..."

Question: "Is there poverty in the Soviet Union as well?"

Yeltsin: "48 million people live under the poverty line, which means that we are on the edge of a precipice."

Question: "How long do you think it would take to improve the situation? I think the Soviet people are beginning to lose patience."

Yeltsin: "You are right. I think their patience won't last longer than one or two more years. That's the maximum. And then the people will take their destiny into their own hands. The revolution from above will turn into a grass-roots, spontaneous revolution."

Question: "What can you as an MP and member of the Supreme Soviet do?"

Yeltsin: "Well, I may have mentioned to you, and certainly to other journalists, that I disapprove of the tactics applied by perestroyka. My standpoint differs from the official one. I think that if we survey our national resources, intellectual and other values, and so on, we see that perestroyka should not have been introduced in so many fields. It is like an attack in a battle. If the attacking troops are located several miles from one another, they cannot achieve a breakthrough. This is true of perestroyka as well. First of all, we should carry out a political reform. This should be the starting point. Then the scope of perestroyka should be narrowed. We should withdraw from certain areas.

"We have to postpone the space programme and cut defence expenditure. We should reduce industrial investment costs by 30 per cent. Besides, we have a great deal of other possibilities to concentrate our material means on—raising living standards, including food supply, the expansion of the variety of goods, services and housing. So perestroyka should be made to work on the essentials. If we had done this from the beginning, we could have raised the living standards of the people over the past four years."

"People would naturally regard these as the achievements of perestroyka. And they would become whole-hearted supporters of perestroyka. They would work much more enthusiastically. Then they themselves would start to extend perestroyka to other areas, but now on the basis of real social achievements. So by, let's say, the millennium, we would arrive at all-embracing perestroyka."

Question: "At the congress, you and several other MP's mentioned that respect for the party was diminishing."

Yeltsin: "That's right..."

Question: "What is the reason for this? Perhaps a lack of awaited results?"

Yeltsin: "There are several reasons. The most important is that in the course of four years, among the targets proclaimed at the beginning of perestroyka, only those that are parts of the establishment, openness, glasnost and democratization, advanced. And they really did. People are no longer indifferent. Society is becoming political. This is obvious. But as far as the material basis for perestroyka is concerned, there is no progress for the time being. This is one reason. The other reason I see in the overwhelming number of Bureaucrats in the party. The democratization of the party is lagging behind that of society. So a reform of the party, perestroyka within the party, has not yet come. We have redecorated the facade to a certain degree, but this is all. This is naturally a very serious problem.

Uzbek Prosecutor's Television Interview Cited

PM2906143189 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 11 Jun 89 p 4

[UZTAG account of interview with Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic Prosecutor D.A. Usatov conducted by Uzbek Television]

[Text] Esteemed comrades!

Fergana Oblast's law-enforcement organs have received numerous telephone calls, statements, and appeals from citizens in the last few days.

The overwhelming majority of them voice the following question: Why have firm measures not been taken against the louts running amok and the killers, looters, and aggressors who are behaving like animals?

This alarm is no accident. I have been in the oblast from the outset of the mass disorders staged by individual groups of young Uzbek nationals generally under the influence of drink and drugs, whose actions are being skillfully exploited by declasse elements among ex-convicts, including recidivists, and criminals. Some people are evidently very interested in this alliance.

In my work I have encountered many serious crimes. But the events occurring in individual population centers in Fergana Oblast have failed to sink in. The brutal torture of old men, women, and children, the sadistically refined killings of innocent people—Turks, Uzbeks, and other nationalities—and the desecration of the dead are shocking in their inhumanity.

Internal affairs organs and internal service troops have throughout the tragedy made constant efforts to suppress the mass disorders. However, it has not, unfortunately, always proved possible to avert tragic consequences. There have been numerous human casualties. According to data currently being amplified, approximately 1,000 citizens have sustained various firearm, knife, and other injuries.

More than 650 apartment blocks and state establishments have been burned down, including schools and enterprises, and approximately 200 motor vehicles and motorcycles have been set on fire.

Evidently, the reasons why our citizens and their property were unprotected against the unrestrained looters and killers have yet to be investigated in depth. Instances of these elements being repulsed in the requisite manner have been extremely rare. It must not be forgotten that we are not dealing here with peaceful demonstrations, processions, or meetings, but with criminals running amok, armed with firearms, cold steel, and petrol bombs.

A mob of louts ran amok in Tashlak settlement. They beat up the rayon party committee [raykom] first secretary, threw him to the ground, kicked him and doused him with gasoline, and tried to set fire to him. He was saved by a miracle. They then took the party raykom second secretary and the rayon executive committee chairman hostage. Rayon militia department officials managed to free them.

Then, under the influence of liquor and drugs, the infuriated mob decided to deal with the militia officials. With this in view it attacked the rayon internal affairs department and smashed everything there was to smash on the first floor. Several officials were wounded by cobblestones and firearms.

It was only after that that they opened fire on the attackers, using their personal weapons. Some of the latter were killed.

Did the militia officials act rightly? I think they did, in accordance with the law. The republic's Criminal Code contains Articles 13 and 14 "Necessary Defense" and "Extreme Necessity," and there are also official instructions and decrees for internal affairs and internal forces personnel whereby—and I quote verbatim—"An action is not a crime, even if it falls within the criteria of a statutory criminal offense, but is committed in a situation of extreme necessity, that is, to eliminate a danger threatening the interests of the Soviet state, public interests, an individual or the rights of a particular person or other citizens, if this danger could not be eliminated by other means under the given circumstances...."

That is why it is necessary to act resolutely in every specific instance, as the situation demands, and in accordance with the law.

I must tell you that prosecutor's office investigating officials will show no mercy to the aforementioned dangerous criminals—they cannot be described as anything else.

We have already instituted criminal proceedings, 3 June, and have embarked on investigating cases of mass disturbances, killings, and rape in Tashlakskiy Rayon.

At present criminal proceedings have been instituted against 15 people. Approximately 200 investigative and operations officials from Prosecutor's Office organs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the KGB, along with experienced criminologists furnished with the requisite technical facilities, have arrived in our area from all regions of the country to investigate the numerous episodes of serious, dangerous crimes.

An enormous volume of work lies ahead.

However, mass violations of public order and instances of attacks on law-enforcement organ officials are not at present enabling us to work totally effectively. Nevertheless, work to uncover and expose the criminals has in effect been mounted throughout the oblast. Several looters and plunderers have already been arrested. I am convinced that deserved retribution will befall all the organizers and chief perpetrators of these foul acts.

There are real grounds for such confidence.

I now urge all oblast inhabitants of all nationalities, the elders, mothers, women, brothers, and sisters, to immediately halt the excesses on the part of a small group of senseless citizens, who are being exploited by criminal elements. I call on you to show good sense.

Fergana Events, Causes Reexamined

LD2906210589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 29 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; I. Abdukhalikov video report]

[Text] [Abdukhalikov] This is Tashlak Rayon, where one of the most dramatic episodes in the Fergana events took place. It was simply a miracle that a number of the rayon's leaders escaped physical reprisals. Several people were killed and others were wounded in an exchange of fire between a rampaging mob and militiamen. [video shows car being searched in street, then close-up shots of damaged building]

Complex feelings of astonishment and vexation were felt by many people when this puny young lad of about 15 years of age was led into the office of the rayon's procurator. He turned out to be Shukarulla Atakhanov, a pupil in the eighth class of Tashlak Secondary School No 11. He had brought along the gasoline with which a person was later dowsed and set alight with a match. True, Shukarulla claims that he did not himself take part directly in this and did not even know why the fuel was needed. In one way or another he is regarded as being an accomplice in this matter. Fortunately the victim is alive. The burned man is in the hospital. According to information from the procurator 15 students from the school took part in the Tashlak events. [video shows young man wiping tears from his eyes as he is interrogated; another young man is shown]

This young man is accused of spreading rumors. True, he was forcibly drawn into the actions. He was made to sit in a vehicle and then was brought along and thrown into the thick of the events. When he tried to run away, birdshot was fired after him. He was not finished off, just warned. [video shows the young man with his shirt removed, displaying some scars where he was hit by the birdshot]

[Young man] I was told: If anyone asks you, say that the Turks shot you. Then it will be okay for you. Is that understood, they asked me. I said okay. [video now shows an interview with A.A. Atadzhanov, Fergana Oblast procurator, identified by screen caption]

[Atadzhanov] The enemies of restructuring have carried out their black work. They played on the feelings of young people by claiming that Meskhetian Turks had carried out pogroms, were killing people, and had even torn children apart and were raping women. These improbable and false rumors were spread. The unstable section of the young people perceived this as the reality. It was all this that gave rise to this tragic development of events. Many of those involved in the arson and pogroms have now been detained. When they are interrogated by the investigators they are asked why they did it. They reply: We do not know. We were told that it was necessary to beat up the Turks in this way and annihilate them. That is what we were told. Who specifically told them? Either they are frightened to say or in actual fact they heard it somewhere and without attaching any importance to it dashed off to this, so to speak, battle. We need to go into this and get through to those people who organized this, to those people. That is the task.

[Abdukhalikov] Here an unhappy mother is lamenting and grieving. Her son, willingly or otherwise, found himself among the mob of hooligans. [video shows two women, one with a baby in her arms, and then some seven youngsters lined up facing a wall with their hands placed on the back of their head]

Yes, the time for committing crimes is passing. Now the time to answer is coming.

Yakovlev Speaks on Role of Socialist Market

PM2606135189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
23 Jun 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Time of Concrete Actions"]

[Text] A meeting between A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR people's deputy, with representatives of Moscow's Lyublinskiy Rayon working people was held 22 June at the Palace of Culture of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Communist Youth League Motor Vehicle Plant. Addressing his audience, he said in part:

It is now 48 years since the outbreak of the Great Patriotic War, which was destined to become all but the most difficult test in the long history of our state. A test whose burden will continue to haunt and sear our consciousness for a long time and prompt us to reflect on the fate of the fatherland.

It was a victory that was won in the most brutal and difficult of wars; a victory over a strong, perfidious, and merciless enemy; a victory in a struggle to the death; a victory won despite numerous miscalculations; a victory won at an unprecedentedly high cost in human life at the front and in the hinterland; a victory which has no parallel as to the force and depth of its impact on the further development of the Soviet society.

The memory of the people's great exploit is not just a tribute to the romantic enthusiasm of the young soldiers and the bonds forged at the front, it is also pride in the high morality of human relations which were constantly bathed in blood and which fostered courage, honor, dignity, and conscious thought. Glasnost and openness in the relations between those who stayed alive soared to such sacred heights that everyone's soul became wide open and everyone's heart transparent, as it were.

One of the key tasks of restructuring is the restoration of human morality, ethical standards, honor, and decency. Restructuring means the dismantling of the economic and political structure which was created over decades and which assigned to the individual the role of a construction material which could be used to patch together anything—while the individual's interests and hopes were ignored. Restructuring means taking a look at our life in a realistic light and judging it according to genuine, not artificial, values. Restructuring means a resolute break with the thinking and mentality according to which some people put their trust in a sagacious leader sitting on high who sees everything, understands everything, and decides everything. In the expectation of the benefits which he will bestow on them they do not rack their brains or their souls. While others, sitting on various rungs of the administrative ladder and afflicted with varying degrees of vanity and conceit, have endowed themselves with such omnipotence that they regard their commanding positions as unassailable fortresses and view an encroachment on them worse than an encroachment on the social order.

Is what we are trying to do difficult? It goes without saying.

And what is particularly difficult is the transition from being an executor of instructions to exercising independence, initiative, and responsibility. The many tempting questions which arise and which in themselves are quite logical and natural are well known: Is it really necessary? What can we, personally, do or change?

I will say this: It is necessary, comrades! It is necessary in order to change life for the better once and for all. In order to begin to live truly according to the labor and talent of each. In order to ensure that honest and decent people are as comfortable as possible in our society. And in order to ensure that idle and greedy people feel as uncomfortable as possible. We can achieve this; it is entirely feasible, we still have a conscience, and I think we have enough faith in ourselves.

The first USSR Congress of People's Deputies marks a visible break with the former mentality of self-abasement; it has become a powerful factor of the irreversibility and accelerator of restructuring. It has moved society, the party, and restructuring on to the next stage of democratization, and boosted the vitality of socialism.

Probably no one among us can recall a congress marked by such openness and candor, emotional intensity and unpredictability, and such sincerity of words and actions. We have not had a congress like this since the four soviet congresses attended by Lenin.

However, these qualities as such are not the main point, of course. For the first time in many decades, the lawmakers have been telling and seeking the truth in front of people's eyes. Despite all the ups and downs, and despite all the extreme viewpoints, the congress has furnished convincing proof: Our life needs changing, and resisting these changes is immoral. Practically all the deputies spoke about the fact that these changes brook no delay; the unanimity in this respect was absolute.

Today, when the intensity of the emotional days of the congress is gradually receding into the past, it is becoming more and more obvious that the calls to take an honest view, make an honest analysis, and live an honest life have won the upper hand. That is to say, democracy has won the upper hand. We have taken in the real dimensions of the problems which have accumulated in many spheres of life. We have become better aware of the consequences of irresponsibility and impunity. And we have understood clearly that if we allowed the braking mechanism, that combination of lazines, individual and group greed, conservatism, laxity, and mutual back-scratching, to continue to take its course, the country would explode. We have convinced ourselves that restructuring has not been conceived or invented artificially, that it is a cry for help from life itself, a logical and moral demand.

Therefore it is especially important now to place emphasis on everything that is positive—be it experience, knowledge, reason, conscience, good sense, or the ability to attend to the job in hand.

However, this positiveness and criticism must not be pitted against each other. We urgently need both. There is no way back, nor can there be, because criticism is the feedback without which no social mechanism can survive.

Given one essential understanding, however. The understanding of responsibility. Our criticism must be a healing criticism. We must not use any sort of excuse to drag the country onto a table where major surgery is performed, sometimes merely because we are poorly informed. Without patriotism, without compassion, without a sense of pride in one's country, it is impossible to build a healthy society. It is also necessary to protect criticism; it must not be allowed to degenerate into negativism and grumbling.

The congress raised many problems, but it also revealed a universal understanding of what currently constitutes the key political tasks of restructuring.

First, it is necessary to combine democracy with responsibility both for actions and words, and with discipline and self-discipline in society.

Second, it is necessary to create a rule-of-law state where the same laws apply to everyone. The rule-of-law state and democracy must become one. Democracy without law and order spells chaos, anarchy, and arbitrariness, under the conditions of which the "law of the fist" inevitably triumphs. The regulator of order is law in combination with democracy and its institutions, morality, and public opinion. Without this unity it is impossible to advance in restructuring or even simply to live lives worthy of human beings. And we have to establish order, comrades. And what is more, we have to do it together.

Third, it is necessary to ensure the power of the soviets, their commitment, and their practical ability to resolve questions pertaining to day-to-day life on the territory under their jurisdiction, and resolve them jointly with the people in an atmosphere of socialist self-management.

All these are fundamental principles of restructuring. The popularization [narodizatsiya] of power, the popularization of ownership and the equitability of all its forms—this is the essence of the economic and the political reforms, the essence of restructuring itself. The congress has endorsed this, expressed its support, and demanded that we advance more vigorously, consistently, and purposefully.

The main attention now belongs to the economy, and, within the economy, to overcoming the financial crisis, eliminating shortages, eradicating state and production monopolism, and improving the people's well-being. However, not one of these tasks can be fulfilled within the framwork of the old structures.

A great deal now hinges on the problem of the socialist market. The market is one of the economic "technologies" whose function it is to ensure exchange and distribution. This task can only be resolved by means of the market. The attempts to resolve it by other means have engendered the current situation.

However, the functions of the socialist market are not just economic. The market is the economic basis of democracy. The democratization of society and the popularization of power have so far greatly outstripped the popularization of ownership and the formation of the socialist market. As a result a contradiction has arisen which is hampering our progress. As long as this situation prevails, restructuring cannot advance by big strides; it cannot have a full impact on society's life.

The market also has a management function. Whatever cannot be effectively regulated from the center—and there is no reason why it should—is left to the processes of self-regulation. This is where the stumbling block lies. Creating a market means letting it have some of the power—that very power which feeds and sponges on shortages. So far restructuring of the management system and changing the functions of ministries and departments has been stubbornly viewed in isolation from the market mechanisms characteristic of socialism. This is why ministerial and other reorganizations abound in our country, while there is no stable trend toward the restoration of a normal market as a natural means of exchanging labor equivalents.

The socialist market also has an ideological function. The individual and the collective, in entering the market, are exercising their freedom of choice. As long as the satisfaction of needs everywhere and as regards everything depends on superior economic and management authorities, we will not be able to rid ourselves of either the mutual backscratching or the demoralizing indifference.

It is certainly no accident that the most critical situation has developed in the "social triad." The essence of the problem is obvious: The management system has not been geared to man; it was not subordinated to his needs. It has had its own objectives, interests, and guidelines. This is why its most serious problems have arisen in its immediate relations with people—that is, housing, food, and goods. Without changing this system it is impossible to radically improve the situation which has formed. I will go further and say that I am convinced that unless the current management system is changed, the time is not far off when it will also turn its back on the departments. If you take a closer look you will see that it is just as indifferent to departmental interests as it is to the interests of the individual. The prerestructuring management system is just as insensitive, not to say hostile, to collective or enterprise consumers.

However, we must not eliminate the old forms of management forcibly; we must not hack away regardless. We must channel our efforts into introducing viable new forms. The old forms will then either wither away naturally or manage to adapt, to find within themselves reserves for survival. And everyone will gain from that. The main thing is not to hamper the natural development of processes.

The congress also revealed that higher demands are being made on the party, its aktiv, and its apparatus. It may seem paradoxical: There have never been more Communists in the lineup of a congress or the country's Supreme Soviet. Yet never before has such sharp criticism been leveled from the rostrum of the Palace of Congresses against the party, against many of its senior officials and elected representatives, including members of the Politburo and the Central Committee general secretary. What is the reason for this?

The working people support the party's course of restructuring. At the same time they are making higher demands on the party as the political vanguard of society, and above all on its leading representatives and leaders at all levels. Membership of the CPSU has ceased to be a protective shield. On the contrary, this membership has become the target of close public scrutiny, of particularly high demands on Communists and on their words, actions, and behavior.

There is no denying that this is both painful and unaccustomed. Even those who have embarked on restructuring are being criticized. And not everyone is reacting to this with understanding. However, it is necessary for people to stop viewing criticism as hurtful. There is no one to be offended against, and moreover, whining is undignified. It is much more honorable to acknowledge that the times of artificial political comfort are over. It is necessary for everyone without exception to work in the new fashion.

It is important now for party organizations and Communists to be able to draw lessons from past mistakes and miscalculations and place themselves in the vanguard of the processes of democratization. The party can take pride in having taken such a courageous step as restructuring. The fact that the transitional period has produced much that was not expected is not really surprising. The winds of change drive living as well as dead leaves. The torrent of revolution usually washes up a lot of scum, but in the end the water becomes clearer. The party itself has chosen this most difficult road. And it will advance along it without stopping. Hold your heads high, Comrade Communists!

A.N. Yakovlev also dwelt on questions of the CPSU's foreign policy activities and the link between them and the processes of restructuring.

The assets of restructuring include renewed relations with our friends. Of special significance in this context is the normalization of relations with our great Chinese neighbor. A high price has been paid for the 30 years of hostility both by ourselves and the Chinese people. It is impossible to travel the path of reforms and renewal carrying such a burden on our shoulders. It is clearly no accident that this was realized simultaneously in Moscow and in Beijing and, what is more, at a time when the transformations in our two countries, without being the same, have, each in its own way, reached a decisive stage.

A fundamental asset of restructuring was the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan.

The assets of restructuring and the new political thinking also include considerably improved relations with the West and fundamental breakthroughs in the relations with the United States and the FRG. The threat of war has been staved off, the "cold" war has, to all intents and purposes, been reduced to naught, the process of real disarmament and armed forces and armaments reduction has begun. The prospects for the political settlement of regional conflicts look much more positive.

In practical terms all this is a product of the concept of new political thinking which we have elaborated. A concept which restores the dialectic unity between socialism and the processes of world development. A concept which leads us out of the erroneous self-isolation and frees us from dogmas, misconceptions, and spiritual autarky.

However, the very concept of the new political thinking is the result of restructuring, of the transformations that have been begun, and of the new look at socialism and its development, a look enriched by experience. As a result we are living in greater security, we no longer have neighbors with whom a threat of serious disputes persists, we have become intellectually richer, and we have managed to mobilize additional reserves, and not just material reserves, for the needs of our own development.

A.N. Yakovlev also spoke about the work of the CPSU Central Committee Commission for the additional investigation of materials relating to the repressions of the thirties, forties, and early fifties. To conclude the meeting he answered numerous questions from the meeting participants.

On the same day A.N. Yakovlev visited the V.I. Lenin All-Union Communist Youth League Motor Vehicle Plant. He inspected the modeling, instrument, and assembly shops and the plant's museum, and chatted with the work force.

Baklanov Visit to Aircraft Supply Plant Detailed

PM2206132789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
21 Jun 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Improving the Economy Via the Social Sphere"]

[Text] The interested attention that millions of Soviet people paid to the work of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies has given rise to many questions, the main one being how they are to precisely define their place and role in the resolution of those tasks that life has set our society as it implements the revolutionary restructuring on the party's initiative. Under these conditions the need for exchange of ideas and open informal dialogue on the most pressing problems is particularly great.

The social sphere is their focal point. That is why O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, began his 20 June visit to Moscow's "Znamya Revolyutsii" Machine Building Production Association—the largest manufacturer of aircraft engine fuel-regulators—with a detailed look at the enterprise collective's living and working conditions.

The clinic, the first branch of which was commissioned in 1972, restores approximately 2,000 production workers to health every year. Members of their families can also take a rest there with them. The 25 treatment rooms are well-equipped.

Approximately 20 percent of the accommodation and treatment is free. The trade unions provide it for the machine builders. For others a 24-day stay at the clinic costs R16 each, although the total cost of the accommodation and treatment is R135. The machine builders to whom the CPSU Central Committee secretary talked here are content with the recreational conditions and believe that the funds which the enterprise is investing in the development of the clinic—which is, incidentally, one of the best in Moscow—are recouped a hundredfold in production.

O.D. Baklanov visited the construction of a large apartment block which the enterprise is building by the own-resources method. Several sections are already habitable. There are another two in line.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary made detailed inquires regarding the formation of construction collectives and their supply of equipment and materials.

Housing construction using the own-resources method is the main means of resolving the acute question with which the collective is faced. Approximately 600 machine builders are now waiting their turn to obtain apartments or improve their housing conditions. In the course of conversations at the construction site the need to make more vigorous use of every opportunity to expand the scale and step up the pace of the work was stressed. It was pointed out, in particular, that difficulties with materials and equipment can be overcome to a considerable extent by organizing a special supply department for construction workers and making greater use of production-sharing with other enterprises here. Initiative and enterprise are particularly needed to solve social questions, and the economic reform has opened up a broad path for this, the CPSU Central Committee secretary said.

The state of affairs at many other facilities in this sphere which O.D. Baklanov visited convince us of this. For instance, the association's large and well-equipped sports complex with swimming pools and gyms approximately 10,000 square meters in area is virtually empty now, on summer days.

Yet comparatively little effort and resources would be sufficient to breathe life into it and render the leisure center useful. This would, incidentally, provide considerable income, which is so necessary for the rapid development of the enterprise's social structure.

The new economic thinking at the base of the radical reform proceeds on the principle that anything that benefits people must also benefit production. During a tour of an exhibition of the consumer goods produced by the enterprise, it was noted that baby carriages bearing its brand name are in great demand not only within our country; they are exported without virtually any restrictions.

There is, to be more correct, just one restriction: The small number of these goods produced limits trade. The enterprise, which possesses considerable capacities and qualified specialists, has for the umpteenth year been unable to cross the 100,000 mark for the production of these goods.

You cannot put the allusions to lack of space and capacities made by the association's leaders and the USSR Ministry of the Aviation Industry, to which it is subordinate, on store shelves instead of goods, and it is doubtful whether even production workers themselves would prefer the construction of new premises to the construction of housing and other necessary sociocultural and domestic facilities.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary asked the machine builders to set about resolving the problem from different, more constructive positions. With the use of credit, modernization and retooling of production must be speeded up so that consumer goods production is increased in the near future to the tune of no less than R1 of consumer goods produced for every R1 in the wages fund. It is only with this approach, he said, that the country will be able to resolutely progress in improving the economy and finances and overcoming the acute shortage of many goods that the people are still experiencing. That is one of the most effective means of converting defense production.

There were numerous conversations in the workshops with workers and specialists, the main theme of which was the problem of increasing labor effectiveness and improving working conditions. The need to mechanize and automate to the maximum operations which are still shored up primarily by the supreme skill of production workers was particularly stressed. This is now the key task, especially since cooperatives are recruiting many workers. I.I. Rumyantsev, the enterprise's general director, spoke about ways of resolving this task.

In the afternoon the CPSU Central Committee secretary had a meeting with the enterprise party aktiv. He pointed out that the USSR Congress of People's Deputies graphically attested to the political reform being consistently implemented on the party's initiative and reflected all the socioeconomic processes taking place in our society. O.D. Baklanov stressed that this kind of congress would not have been possible had it not been for the the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 19th party conference.

It is the party, he said, that initiated the radical renewal of all spheres in the life of society, which cannot at this crucial stage of its development do without a guiding and consolidating force. There is no alternative to the CPSU here.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary took part in a debate and answered numerous questions from machine builders concerning various aspects of the life of our society. The exchange of opinions was frank and constructive.

Nikonov Meets With Moscow Dairy Workers

LD2206090189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The Lianozovo Dairy Combine, Moscow, which is without equal in Europe in terms of scale, is essentially only just starting operations. Although the planned schedule for its commissioning passed long ago, its capacities have been mastered by only 20 percent. Questions of increasing production, and improving the quality of output, labor, and conditions for employees in the dairy industry, were examined on 21 June during a visit to the enterprise by Viktor Petrovich Nikonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and USSR people's deputy.

At the end of the work shift a meeting took place with the combine's collective. Viktor Petrovich Nikonov answered questions put forward by workers and specialists.

Nikonov Visits Vladivostok, Maritime Kray 26-29 Jun

Tours City Fish Combine

OW2706012889 Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian 0715 GMT 26 Jun 89

[From the "Pacific Ocean" program]

[Text] Viktor Petrovich Nikonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Vladivostok today. Leaders of a number of central ministries and departments arrived with him.

In the afternoon, Comrade Nikonov and officials accompanying him visited the Vladivostok city fish combine and acquainted themselves with the operations of the enterprise and the experience of the collective in increasing production and expanding the variety and quality of products. A detailed conversation between Comrade Nikonov and workers and specialists of the combine on working and living conditions of fish industry workers and problems of the collective's social and economic development took place.

Comrade Nikonov then visited the central exhibition pavilion of the Dalryba [Far Eastern Fishing Administration] basin industrial association where he viewed samples of goods turned out by the association's enterprises. Presently Comrade Nikonov is inspecting the Dary Morya [Gifts of the Sea] trade complex. Today he is also scheduled to visit a scientific survey ship of TINRO [Pacific Ocean Scientific Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography] where he will meet with the crew, leaders, and specialists of academic and the industry's scientific departments. Comrade Nikonov is being accompanied by Comrade Volyntsev, first secretary of the kraykom [kray party committee]; Comrade Lutsenko, chairman of the krayispolkom [kray executive committee]; and Comrade Moskaltsov, general director of the Dalryba BPO [Basin Production Association].

Vosits Exhibition

LD2606203489 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; correpondent's report over video]

[Excerpts] Comrade Nikonov is visiting the Maritime Kray.

[Correspondent L. Savitskiy, identified by caption] The Far Eastern fish industry occupies an important place in the country's food program. It accounts for over 40 percent of all-union catches. [passage omitted] [video shows production lines, women cutting and packing up fish by hand]

At the exhibition of promising production items of the Far Eastern fishermen, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee pointed to the yet unresolved problems of the deep processing of raw material. For example, only 20 percent of minati roe and liver are being used. The development of foreign economic links is a great reserve for promoting an improvement in the provision of working people with fish. At present, six joint companies have been set up in the Far East—with Japan, the United States, Denmark, and Vietnam. Their output—for example, this aroma-treated minati produced jointly with China—is in great demand. [video showing various items at the exhibition, Nikonov looking at them]

[Begin Nikonov recording] If you want to know our stand on joint enterprises, everything good and useful that we get from joint enterprises for our people receives backing. Perhaps we need not reinvent the wheel. Later, we will learn from the joint enterprises and this will spread. As many as possible should be opened now. [end recording]

[Savitskiy] Viktor Petrovich Nikonov also visited the Dary Okeana shop in Vladivostok and talked to its staff. [video shows Nikonov talking to a group of people at the exhibition and visiting the shop]

Attends Fishermen's Conference

LD2906172989 Moscow TASS in English 1701 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Vladivostok June 29 TASS—A conference of far eastern fishermen, recently held in Vladivostok, was attended by member of the Politburo and secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Viktor Nikonov.

The far eastern region gives more than 40 per cent of all fish catches in the Soviet Union and plays an important role in providing the Soviet Union with food products.

The far eastern conference discussed a lot of social, economic and moral problems that have accunmulated in the industry and are impeding is development.

In his address to the conference, Nikonov emphasised that the past few years had seen positive shifts in implementing a long-term state programme of comprehensive development of the far eastern productive forces. At the same time, many tasks envisaged by the programme are not implemented within the set time limits and scope.

Last year, fish catches in the Soviet far east reached the 1995 level. This became possible as a result of intensification of extracting easily caught fish. However, the region failed to set up a large-scale salmon farm in 1982-1990 and salmon catches have started to fall over the past five years.

Viktor Nikonov dwelt on problems of developing the far eastern fishing fleet. He said that the far eastern fishing fleet and the Soviet fishing industry as a whole should overcome the difficulties left by the period of stagnation as early as possible. He pointed out that the work collectives should expand public openness and democracy and emphasised the need to reorganise the management mechanism in the fishing industry and eliminate excessive intermediate links.

Viktor Nikonov paid special attention to social problems.

During his stay in the maritime territory from June 26 to 29, Nikonov visited a fish plant in Vladivostok, the leading fisheries enterprise in the Soviet far east, as well as an industrial exhibition.

Nikonov also met with workers of a major tin can enterprise in Nakhodka.

Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Holds Meeting 22 Jun

Kafarova New Presidium Chair

NC2306072989 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The Ninth Extraordinary Session of the 11th meeting of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet was held on 22 June. Comrades Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, Oktay Bagirov, (Ivan Karulovskiy), Ratib Zeynalov, Musa Mamedov, Viktor Polyanichko, Artur Rasi-Zade, Suleyman Tatliyev, Gasan Gasanov, Galib Guseynov, Rauf Akhundov, and Sahib Alekperov and the members of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the republic's government sat in the boxes. Deputy Ahad Guseynov, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet, opened the meeting.

The deputies recalled the memory of Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet deputies who died after the eighth convocation of the Supreme Soviet. The agenda of the meeting was established as follows:

1. The question of organization;

2. The way the USSR Council of Ministers decision dated 15 April 1989 is being realized, and the measures related to the resettlement of citizens who have left their places of permanent residence;

3. The establishment of a commission within the framework of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet for restoring jusice to the victims of the punitive measures taken during [words indistinct];

4. The approval of the decrees issued by the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Deputy Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov addressed the meeting on the first item of the agenda. He disclosed that Deputy Suleyman Tatliyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, had asked to retire. On behalf of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the deputies of the republic's Supreme Soviet, Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov sincerely thanked Deputy Suleyman Tatliyev and wished him good health and a long life. Later, Suleyman Tatliyev addressed the meeting and expressed gratitude for the sincere views that were expressed in his favor.

The Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet adopted a decision to grant Suleyman Tatliyev's request to be relieved of his responsibilities as chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on grounds that he will retire. Abudl-Rakhman Vezirov proposed the appointment of Elmira Mikhaylovna Kafarova as Chairwoman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The deputies supported the proposal. The Supreme Soviet adopted a decision to appoint Elmira Mikhaylovna Kafarova as chairwoman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers Presidium.

The meeting heard a report by Deputy Ayaz Mutalibov, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers Presidium, on the third item on the agenda, which concerned the way the USSR Council of Ministers decision dated 15 April 1989 is being implemented and the measures taken to resettle the citizens who have left their places of permanent residence. [passage omitted]

The Supreme Soviet adopted a decision on the second item on the agenda.

Later, the meeting discussed the question of the establishment of a commission within the framework of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet for restoring justice to the victims of punitive measures which were taken in the 1930's and the 1940's and early in the 1950's. An 18-member commission was established. Deputy Daniil Guliyev, director of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Party History Institute, was appointed director of the commission.

The deputies heard a report by Deputy Refiga Kasumova, secretary of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the approval of the presidium's decrees. The Supreme Soviet adopted decisions and laws (?in that regard).

With this, the extraordinary meeting of the 11th convocation of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet concluded its work.

Session Addresses NKAO Problems

PM2406131889 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent A. Dzhalilov report: "Returning Home: Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Session"]

[Text] Baku—A session of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet, held in Baku on 22

June, discussed the question of the course of implementation of USSR Council of Ministers resolutions on providing for citizens who left their permanent places of residence.

It was noted in the report, which was delivered by A. Mutalibov, chairman of the republic Council of Ministers, and in the deputies' speeches, that since the adoption of this government document a comprehensive program has been drawn up in the republic for practical actions to provide for citizens who were forced to leave their permanent places of residence as a result of the extreme deterioration in interethnic relations arising from events in and around Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast.

Thus, in particular, as a result of the measures adopted more than 48,000 citizens of Armenian nationality returned to the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR], which is one-third of those who left. They have all returned to their homes and have been provided with work.

Energetic efforts are being made in the republic to create normal conditions for the 160,000 people of Azerbaijani nationality who left Armenia. They are now settled in 51 rayons and cities. The efforts of all the ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations have been enlisted to help them. More than R27 million has been appropriated from the republican and local budgets, of which R15.5 million is for single payments in aid. A further R7.5 million in additional aid has been provided by the republican "Gaygy" ("Concern") society. Some 23,000 people have been found jobs.

The country's government made its contribution to alleviating the dire situation of the resettled people by sending additional food, prefabricated housing, mobile homes, and so forth to the republic. There is particular concern for children. For them, 19 schools, 300 classrooms, 2 boarding schools, and kindergartens have been opened. At the same time, it was stressed at the session, the problem of providing housing and work for the resettled people remains acute.

At the session, the republic Supreme Soviet formed a commission on questions of the restoration of justice with regard to victims of the repressions that took place in the thirties, forties, and early fifties.

Corresponding resolutions were adopted on the questions discussed.

The session also examined an organizational question. S. Tatliyev was relieved of his duties as chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium at his own request, in connection with his retirement on pension.

E. Kafarova, formerly deputy chairman of the republic Council of Ministers, was elected chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The session was addressed by A.Kh. Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee.

Kafarova Receives Party Post at Azerbaijan Plenum

NC2606070989 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri
1600 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee held a plenum on 23 June to examine the republic party organization's tasks in fulfilling the party's agrarian policy. Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, read a report, which was then debated. [passage omitted]

Decisions on the matter and on fulfilling the decisions of the March plenum of the CPSU Central Committee were adopted.

The plenum also discussed the question of organization. In view of his retirement, Suleyman Tatliyev was relieved of his post as member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and Elmira Kafarova was elected by secret ballot as member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau.

(Afanasyev), an instructor affiliated with the CPSU Party Construction and Cadre Affairs Department, and Azimov, an instructor affiliated with the CPSU Central Committee Agrarian Department, participated in the work of the plenum.

Azerbaijan's Vezirov Meets Youth Representatives

NC2606093889 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri
0340 GMT 25 Jun 89

[From the republican press review]

[Text] Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, met with the representatives of youths involved in scientific and creative work in Baku at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee on 24 June. The theme of the meeting was youth and reconstruction. What is the role of youth in the process of restructuring society and resolving the accumulated problems?

In his address to the youths, Vezirov pointed to matters concerning the [words indistinct] of the republic's economy, the establishment of the new social and economic structure, and the development of science and the scientific domain in the economic field.

Ratib Zeynalov, secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee; Sahib Alekperov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic Leninist Communist Youth League Central Committee; and Ratib Aliyev, chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Ideology Department, participated in the meeting.

New Commission for Return of Azerbaijanis, Armenians

LD2606071789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Supporting proposals from the central committees of the Azerbaijani and Armenian communist parties and the governments of the two republics, the USSR Council of Ministers set up an interrepublican commission on issues connected with the return of citizens of Azerbaijani and Armenian nationality to their places of permanent residence and with compensating them for material loss.

As a result of the measures taken, more than 48,000 Armenians have already returned to Azerbaijan—one-third of those who had left. Ministries, departments, enterprises, and the entire population of Azerbaijan have been drawn into rendering assistance to citizens arriving there from Armenia. The migrants have been given material assistance R20 million from the local budget. More than 4,000 families have been given plots of land to build private houses, and new schools and kindergartens have been opened.

NKAO Rally Criticizes Antirestructuring Deputies

PM1906114189 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 6 Jun 89 p 2

[ARMENPRES own correspondent A. Grigoryan report: "On the Situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast"]

[Text] Stepanakert—The situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] has not changed as a whole in the last few days. People still have not gone back to work.

There was another rally of the city's working people in the evening of 4 June, in the oblast center's Victory Square. Those present brought banners with them, which read: "The people of Karabakh demand freedom," "Miatsum [meaning unknown], only Miatsum," and other slogans, as well as tricolor flags, which are the Armenian national symbol.

The rally was opened by Gurgen Gabrielyan, a children's writer well known in the region. Addressing the rally, Ashot Stepanyan, director of the Stepanakert M. Gorkiy Armenian State Drama Theater; Robert Kocharyan, secretary of the Karabakh Silk Combine party organization; labor veteran Ishkhan Avetisyan; Asmik Mikayelyan, secretary of the city party committee; and others pointed out that a number of speeches at the USSR Congress of People's Deputies contained ideas from the stagnation era, which is causing serious concern among restructuring supporters. They expressed the idea that the Karabakh problem can only be resolved as a result of the triumph of new thinking in questions concerning interethnic relations and the further democratization of social life. The rally participants voiced the hope that antirestructuring forces at the congress would be reliably blocked. At the same time, they appealed to the population to remain calm and restrained, as before, and not to succumb to possible provocation.

The situation remained the same on 5 June in Stepanakert and the oblast. In the opinion of many, even the latest TASS report overdramatized the situation. People living in the region received the news of the terrible tragedy which happened in Bashkiria with pain in their hearts. They have expressed their willingness to give as much help as they can to the families of the victims.

The autonomous oblast is remaining relatively calm. People are impatiently awaiting the speech at the congress by their deputy.

NKAO Situation, Silkworm Infestation Reported

NC2206082389 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 21 Jun 89

[ARMENPRES correspondent A. Grigoryan report: "On NKAO Situation]

[Text] Stepanakert, 21 Jun, ARMENPRES—During the first days of this week, the overwhelming majority of enterprises and organizations in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] remained on strike, except for the agricultural and consumer services sector. The reason the strike is continuing is because the people are waiting for the implementation of concrete measures regarding the questions they have raised. Many things will be clarified after the return of the NKAO's USSR people's deputies, who will be meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow.

During the last 2 days, the situation in the oblast has not basically changed. The Stepanakert residents have refrained from holding rallies and marches.

A critical situation has developed in the oblast's forest industry. Nearly 25,000 of the 150,000 hectares of forest area has suffered from pests such as silkworms and [yergrachap trjur]. As a result, the NKAO Special Administration Committee has asked for assistance from the USSR State Committee for Forestry, which will send qualified experts to NKAO.

The curfew is still in effect in the oblast. Relations between the population and the Army servicemen are mutually respectful. No serious interethnic violations of law have occurred.

'Karabakh Committee' Member Petrosyan Interviewed

NC2306201889 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1600 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Interview with Samuel Petrosyan, member of the Karabakh Committee, by Ayda Mushdikyan; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Mushdikyan] A session of the republic's Supreme Soviet will convene tomorrow [23 June]. Our people have many expectations for this session. What are the proposals and urgent questions of concern to Armenia's Karabakh Movement? To find out, I interviewed one of the movement's members, journalist Samuel Petrosyan. Samuel, what proposals and urgent questions do you wish to pose to the upcoming session of the Supreme Soviet?

[Petrosyan] The earthquake was a massive disaster for the Armenian people, not only because of the physical destruction it caused but also because it dealt a serious blow to the movement that had emerged in Armenia and the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]. It was also a psychological blow; the moral-psychological atmosphere was substantially altered. At present, we face numerous problems; some are social, others purely national. We believe that without the solution of the national problems, the rest cannot be given radical solutions. From this point of view, the Armenian people may have many expectations for the upcoming session of the republic's Supreme Soviet. Armenia's Karabakh Movement, taking into consideration the current political and social situation and the tense atmosphere existing in the republic and NKAO, is going to submit a series of resolutions to the session of the republic's Supreme Soviet. We consider these nationwide resolutions because they have been formulated at the suggestion of the people and have come in as written suggestions from general meetings. The seriousness of the current situation and people's expectations for the deputies can be judged within the framework of these problems. The NKAO problem is [word indistinct] for all of us. Naturally, the session must deal with this problem and in accordance with our own suggested resolution, the republic's Supreme Soviet session must confirm its 15 June 1988 decision on the reunification of NKAO with Armenia, as well as the 24 November 1988 session's decision reiterating the earlier decision.

Recently, the question of a plebiscite has gained currency. In view of this, the committee, taking into consideration the people's wishes and views, considers it necessary that an article on a prebiscite should be inserted by adopting a resolution appealing to the USSR Supreme Soviet for the holding of a plebiscite in the NKAO within the next 3 months. This would allow the population of the oblast to exercise definitively its right to self-determination and thus extricate the Artsakh [NKAO] problem from the dangerous impasse, since any postponement of the problem means the further exacerbation of a situation that can lead to interethnic clashes.

[Mushdikyan] At present, the ecological problem distresses all of us. What suggestions are you going to put forward in this regard?

[Petrosyan] The most important of these are the demands for the closure of the Nayirit scientific-production association and the Kirovakan chemical combine. We are certainly going to propose the Nayirit closure in the form of a resolution to be discussed at the Supreme Soviet. We demand an appropriate decision on this issue, that is, its closure by 24 July 1989. The Council of Ministers and Communist Party Central Committee and the central authorities decided back in 1984 to remove Nayirit from Yerevan and to rebuild the [word indistinct] rubber factory outside the borders of Armenia. Thus, Nayirit should have been removed by now from Yerevan in accordance with the decisions of the central government and the health ministry. Kirovakan also faces a similar severe ecological problem and here, too, the need for measures to the protection of the people is urgent. In one of our resolutions we are explicitly demanding that the Kirovakan chemical combine (?stop operating) because it not only produces hazardous materials but is also dangerously located in an earthquake zone.

[Mushdikyan] We all realize the urgency of reconstruction in the disaster zone. What do you say about this?

[Petrosyan] We have resolutions on this matter as well. They call for the formation of a special commission made up of deputies, experts, and public representatives to act as a public oversight body not only providing information, but also carrying out coordinating and supervisory responsibilities. At present, many people have remained (?in the open) in the disaster area. So far reemployment and the problem of settling the local population have not been solved [word indistinct] and a large number of people have not been provided with shelter or prefabricated houses. There are numerous other problems the commission should help tackle. In addition to this, [word indistinct] there are important projects drawn up by relevant experts and public organizations. These have been examined by the voters and have been brought to the attention of the deputies. One suggestion concerns Army draftees. Instead of cutting the people in the disaster area off from the reconstruction work and bringing in others from thousands of kilometers away, we propose that the republic's Supreme Soviet should suggest to the USSR Supreme Soviet that the draftees, instead of serving outside the republic's borders, work in Army construction units in the disaster zone. For us the need for a law on the mandatory use of the Armenian language within the republic's territory is extremely important, because, in the last analysis, the Armenian language is the most important guarantee for our people's survival. The development of the Armenian national school is also extremely important, as is freedom of religious expression and the issue of [words indistinct] of church and state. Although language is considered one of the most important factors for our nation's survival, the church, too, plays an important role.

Yerevan Party Leader Replaced at 20 Jun Gorkom

NC2206112489 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 21 Jun 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] The Armenian Communist Party's Yerevan city committee [gorkom] plenum was held yesterday [20

June]. It discussed organizational problems. An extensive ARMENPRES report on this meeting indicates that the plenum has released Minasbekyan from his post of first secretary and bureau membership of Yerevan Gorkom for reasons of transfer to other work.

The issue of new candidates for the post of first secretary of Yerevan Gorkom was discussed at an earlier meeting attended by the secretaries of Yerevan regional committees [raykoms] and large raykoms and the directors of industrial enterprises and higher educational institutes.

Grigor Asatryan was elected by secret ballot the first secretary and a member of the bureau of Yerevan Gorkom of the Armenian Communist Party. Asatryan is working as the director of the Ideological Department of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee.

Asatryan addressed the plenum. Suren Arutunayn, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a speech in which he seriously criticized the party's gorkom, its bureau, and the workstyle of its secretaries, and dwelled upon the basic trends of operations of the city's party organization.

Armenian Party Ideological Committee Meets

NC2206162289 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Yerevan, 21 Jun (ARMENPRES)—A regular expanded meeting of the ideological committee of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee has been held.

Opening the meeting, G.A.Galoyan, chairman of the committee, secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, and USSR people's deputy, spoke about the first USSR Congress of People's Deputies. The USSR deputies from our republic obeyed the instructions of their constituencies. In their speeches and in conversations with representatives from all over the country, in addition to issues of concern throughout the Soviet Union, they pointed to the problems distressing the Armenian people, from Nagorno-Karabakh to the ecological situation in the republic.

The meeting discussed suggestions on further promoting the use of the Armenian language and measures for its comprehensive application. In this regard, the committee, like all the Communists and workers in the republic, is guided by the decisions of the 1988 September plenum of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and is prompted by the necessity to expand and consolidate the use of the Armenian language as the state language of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Endorsing suggestions put forward by leading scientists and other authoritative experts, the ideological committee of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee instructed a team to prepare a draft document on the Armenian language after assessing the criticisms and suggestions. This draft document will be submitted for public examination. Suggestions for creating a center to study public opinion attached to the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee were also discussed. The center will coordinate scientific research in that branch of study.

Armenian Council of Ministers Rules on Housing

NC2206164289 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 21 Jun 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] The paper has published on its front page a press release on the meeting of the Armenian Council of Ministers. The statement says: The republic's Council of Ministers has decided that its 1981 and 1986 decisions on the laws concerning the building of private housing in the Armenian Republic and the amendments to this law are no longer in force, and instead, has passed a new law on building private housing in Soviet Armenia with a view to regulating the problems related to the construction of private housing and to provide builders with legal documents.

The Council of Ministers has instructed the republic's Justice Ministry to publish within a month's time a collection of regulations, in both Armenian and Russian, for private builders on their (?responsibilities), financing, and procurement of building materials, as well as the rules on the organization and implementation of private house building in the republic.

Armenian Supreme Soviet Seniors' Council Meets

NC2306083189 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 23 Jun 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] The paper informs us that the Seniors' Council of the Armenian Supreme Soviet met yesterday [22 June] in the building of the Presidium of our republic's Supreme Soviet.

The issues related to the ninth session of the 11th Congress of the republic's Supreme Soviet were discussed during the meeting. Tonoyan, chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet, chaired the meeting and delivered a speech on this matter.

Armenian Supreme Soviet Meets in Yerevan 23 Jun

Ninth Session of Eleventh Congress

NC2206111689 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 22 Jun 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] The paper informs its readers that the ninth session of the 11th Congress of our republic will open tomorrow [23 Jun] at 1000 hours in the Hall of the Congresses of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

Presidium Resolves on Agenda

NC2406093089 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 24 Jun 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] As has already been reported, the ninth session of the 11th Congress of the republic's Supreme Soviet began in Yerevan yesterday [23 June], in the congress hall of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

Tonoyan, chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet and people's deputy, opened the session. The deputies stood up to pay their respects to the memory of the victims of the earthquake and to Minasyan, the deputy who died after the conclusion of the eighth session of the Supreme Soviet.

The chairman indicated that when the eighth session of the republic's Supreme Soviet ended on 22 November 1988 the examination of a number of issues remained inconclusive. Therefore, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet introduced a resolution for the discussion of the following:

First: The question of the implementation by the republic's soviet and economic bodies of the decisions on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers. This resolution was introduced by the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

Second: The question of the course of the implementation of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers concerning the elimination of the consequences of the earthquake in Armenia. This resolution was introduced by the republic's Council of Ministers.

Third: The question of the ecological situation in the republic and ways to improve it. This resolution was introduced by the republic's Council of Ministers.

Fourth: The question of drafting a republican law concerning the public examination of important state affairs. Fifth: The question concerning the confirmation of decrees of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium.

These two last points also remained unresolved at the eighth session of the Supreme Soviet.

The seniors council of the Supreme Soviet has given its consent for the inclusion of these issues in the agenda of the Supreme Soviet session.

In addition to these, two more resolutions have been submitted for debate:

First: A draft resolution based on the decision of the terminology committee affiliated to the republic's Council of Ministers concerning amendments to the Armenian texts of the republic's constitution, basic law, and other statutory acts in which the word soviet and its derivatives should be replaced by khorhrd and its derivatives.

Second: The creation of a Supreme Soviet commission to oversee the reinstitution of justice for the victims of the repression of the 1930's, 1940's, and early 1950's.

The agenda of the session was then submitted for debate. In line with the wishes of the deputies and a number of questions posed by them, the session confirmed, by majority vote, the above agenda endorsed by the seniors council. It was also decided that replies should be given to the questions raised by the deputies during the session.

Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and people's deputy, spoke about the results of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and about the burning problems facing the republic. The deputies then commenced the debate on the agenda.

Vladimir Movsisyan, first deputy chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers and people's deputy, spoke about the question of implementation by the republic's soviet and economic bodies of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers concerning the NKAO. An exchange of views took place about this. In view of the proposals, comments, and corrections made by the deputies, the session unanimously passed the following Supreme Soviet decision: The Supreme Soviet session has formed a parliamentary commission to coordinate and oversee the assistance given to the NKAO.

The deputies then examined the second point of the agenda.

Vladimir Markaryants, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers and USSR people's deputy, spoke about the question of the course of the implementation of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers concerning the elimination of the consequences of the earthquake in Armenia.

Deputy Sarkisyan, from Leninakan city, Spendaryan okrug, and Deputy Shavarsh Aleksanyan, from Abaran rayon okrug, participated in the debate.

Thus ended the deliberations of the 1st day of the session. The session will resume its deliberations today.

An extensive ARMENPRES report has been published in the paper on the ninth session of the 11th Congress of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

Arutyunyan Discusses Proceedings

LD2406222689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] In Yerevan the latest session of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic is continuing its work. Our correspondent Koryun Khumaryan reports:

[Khumaryan] At the beginning it was thought the session would last only 2 days. But now its second day is already ending and the agenda is far from exhausted. This is understandable because the matters which the session is studying are extremely important for the republic and for each of its inhabitants. Therefore they are being studied thoroughly and in detail. Speaking at the session, Suren Gurgenovich Arutunyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Armenian Communist Party, said:

[Begin Arutunyan recording in Armenian, with superimposed Russian translation] The session is discussing the most vitally important, the most fundamental and painful issues for our people. The present and future consequences of the destructive earthquake, the alarming ecological situation which has arisen in the republic, and the Artsakh problem [ancient Armenian name for Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast], which has become a national concern, have created extreme social and psychological tension in the republic and an extremely complex situation.

We must admit with all responsibility that the problems which have accumulated over decades and the destructive earthquake have completely broken down the republic's economy. The people's social dissatisfaction has caused a feeling of defenselessness. It will require tremendous effort and good fortune to overcome the situation.

Now is not the time for slogans and noisy patriotism, but for active patriotism. Many deputies, studying the progress of the fulfillment by republican organizations of party and government decisions on Nagorno-Karabakh and steps to eliminate the consequences of the earthquake, have demanded that representatives of informal public organizations be invited to the session, including those which are not registered anywhere, such as the Armenian national movement and the Karabakh Committee, which participate very actively in the life of the republic. [end recording]

Decisions have been made on the creation of a deputies' commission on the coordination and control of the work in the poverty zone, and also on control over the fulfilment of party and state decisions on Nagorno-Karabakh. The session is continuing its work.

Social, Ecological Commissions

NC2506124989 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 25 Jun 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Excerpts] The ninth session of the 11th Congress of the Armenian Supreme Soviet continued its deliberations yesterday [24 June]. The deputies debated the address made by Vladimir Markaryants, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, on the question of implementation of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers to resolve the effects of the earthquake in the republic. [passage omitted] A commission of deputies was set up to coordinate and oversee the relief work. [passage omitted]

A debate developed on the question of solving the housing, employment, and other social problems of the Armenian refugees from Azerbaijan. A commission attached to the republic's Supreme Soviet was set up and its activities (?defined).

At the suggestion of a group of deputies, the representatives of the non-formal public organizations and of the Armenian immigrants (?took part) in the deliberations of the session. [passage omitted]

The next item on the agenda was devoted to the ecological situation in the republic and ways to improve it. [passage omitted] The future operations of the Nayirit scientific production enterprise was subjected to heated debate. After the debate, an ecological commission was set up to prepare a draft resolution on the issue.

Vladimir Markaryants replied to a number of questions raised at the session.

The session will continue its deliberations today.

The paper has published an extensive ARMENPRES report on the session of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

Supreme Soviet Session Concludes

LD2506142189 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Yerevan June 25 TASS—A session of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic ended in Yerevan today. The deputies have analysed a complex situation that has formed in the republic, discussed burning problems.

Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Armenian Communist Party, said in his speech that these problems are above all the consequences of the devastating quake, the unsatisfactory state of things with environmental protection, the problem related to the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region. Therefore it would be an inextricable error to fail to realise that these factors seriously affected the republic's economy and caused social dissatisfaction.

The need to enhance competence and effectiveness of local government bodies was discussed at the session. It was noted that they should be masters in their territory and protect interests of voters. Not rapid enough pace of the restoration work is quite often caused by lack of coordination between rural and city soviets and managers of building organizations. The same drawbacks are apparent in the effort to create conditions for people who moved to Armenia from Azerbaijan. They number 220 thousand.

The deputies supported the idea of creating a zone of free enterprise in Armenia in connection with extraordinary circumstances caused by the quake. They declared for a fair solution to the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh on a democratic and constitutional basis and proposed a priority programme of the improvement of the ecological situation. The draft law of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic on public discussion on important questions of state affairs has been discussed.

Yerevan Rally Addresses Resolutions to Parliament

NC2406111889 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1800 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Dear compatriots, the ninth session of the 11th Congress of the Armenian republic's Supreme Soviet commenced its deliberations in Yerevan today [23 June]. On the eve of the session, a public meeting took place near Madenadaran. Workers, intellectuals, and representatives of the scientific and social centers took part in the meeting. A delegation from the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO], as well as people's deputies, participated in the meeting. Here is a report by our colleague Seva Der-Khazaryan:

[Begin recording] The people gathered around the scientific research institute named after Mesrob Mashdots [inventor of Armenian alphabets]. The gathering resembled a stormy sea tossing the many unsolved and accumulated problems of the stagnation period onto the shore.

Dr Rafael Ishkhanyan, professor of linguistics, pointed out in his address that nowadays it is pronounced from the highest podiums of authority that our state language is Armenian. Therefore, from the highest officials down to the ordinary Armenians, we have no right to deride or trample upon the language of great Mashdots; rather, we are duty bound to love and protect the Armenian language, our holy of holies. He then read out the resolution formulated by the people: Children of Armenian extraction should henceforth study in Armenian schools alone. Parents with other ethnic affiliation should decide for themselves which schools they send their children to. However, they, too, must be under obligation to understand the state language of Armenia, which is Armenian.

Agop Sanasaryan, chemical sciences candidate, speaking about the chemical installations in Armenia which harm the people's health and destroy nature, said that the Nayirit chemical plant is the symbol of slow death for the 13th capital—Yerevan—of the ancient Armenian land. He said that the closure of Nayirit is not merely a local concern; the chemicals spewed out by the plant could damage the ozone layer which protects the earth from the sun's radiation and could contribute to the warming-up of the atmosphere. The Supreme Soviet session must immediately accede to the wishes of the people and close Nayirit down, he said.

USSR People's Deputy Boris Dadamyan, who had come from the NKAO, also addressed the meeting. He pointed to the unjust and arbitrary decisions on the NKAO made since the 1920's. He added that this time around the Artsakh people will not calm down until a just solution is attained for the question. He also spoke about the meeting of Artsakh deputies with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The statements of the representatives from the disaster area about the slow pace of restoration, the lack of technology, and the erroneous choice of sites for reconstruction were alarming. The representatives demanded the implementation of the proposal that Suren Arutunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, made at the recent Congress of People's Deputies in Moscow to the effect that a free enterprise and economic zone should be set up in Armenia.

People also spoke about the continuing poisoning incidents in Armenia, the political assessment of the Sumgait genocide, the Armenian refugees from Azerbaijan, and other problems.

The participants in the meeting decided to declare 1-2 July as a nationwide weekend of voluntary work. They called on Yerevan residents to work on those days in the earthquake areas.

Levon Der-Petrosyan, a member of the Karabakh committee, distributed the texts of those resolutions addressed to the Supreme Soviet session. These resolutions have been formulated on the basis of the daily rallies and public opinion. [end recording]

Police Lieutenant To Die for Murder, Robbery

PM2206151789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Trial in Donetsk"]

[Text] Donetsk, 21 Jun—Misdeeds perpetrated by a group of criminals have been revealed at the trial of a case which had been investigated for 3 and ½ months by the criminal collegium of the Donetsk Oblast court under the chairmanship of A. Makarov. The trial exposed the circumstances leading to premeditated murders, assaults, robberies, and thefts of private and state property on an especially large scale, using sophisticated methods of torturing victims.

The criminal group included both habitual criminals and people involved in criminal doings for the first time. Konovalov, 28-year-old acting chief of a Donetsk rayon criminal investigation department, ended up in the dock. The former senior lieutenant played anything but a secondary role in the perpetration of the crimes. The court established that seven major crimes had been committed of which five, including a premeditated murder and an attempted murder, had been organized and headed by the former militiaman.

The courts established the measure of guilt of each of the 11 defendants. The two main ones—Konovalov and Belitskiy—were sentenced to capital punishment for the sum total of their crimes, the others were sentenced to various terms of deprivation of liberty.

'Ecologically Unfit' Gas Plant To Close

PM2206152389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jun 89 Second Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent Yu. Shcherbinin: "For the Sake of People's Health"]

[Text] Astrakhan, 16 Jun—The Astrakhan Oblast environmental protection committee has decided to close down the gas-processing plant.

It is hard to assess the damage already caused by an enterprise which is technologically and ecologically unfit to exist. In February the oblast soviet executive committee [oblispolkom] made it incumbent on the leaders of the "Astrakhangazprom" Association to ensure that the complex observed the permissible level of harmful discharges laid down in the design.

But discharges in the 1st quarter were already nearly one-half of the projected annual level. There is neither effective monitoring nor a guaranteed operating regime at the enterprise. Accidental and large-scale emissions have continued. People have been affected and crops have perished on many farms in Krasnoyarskiy Rayon. The future of one of nature's unique marvels—the Astrakhan nature reserve in the Volga Delta—is in a critical state.

At the insistence of the CPSU oblast committee and the oblispolkom the gas-processing plant has been operating at 50-percent capacity since the beginning of the year. Despite that the accident rate has increased.

Operations have been suspended at the Astrakhan gas-processing plant. But the problem remains.

The other day it was learned that the enterprise had resumed work at only 15-percent capacity. Given that the complex cost R15 billion, is that not rather wasteful? It is now perfectly clear that in the present situation a patch-up job will not do. The national economy has suffered greatly and people's health and the whole of the unique Volga-Caspian region are in great danger.

Economic

Academician Defends Economic Scientists

PM2906142389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by Academician S. Shatalin under the rubric "Scientist Takes the Floor": "Are We Terminating Restructuring?... Regarding Some Publications on an Economic Theme"]

[Text] On 18 February 1989, A. Chekalin published.... I chose those words deliberately to resist the temptation to present a most fundamental question as an internewspaper polemic. So, in PRAVDA's platform for debate, A. Chekalin published an article entitled "Reading the Tea Leaves" in which he accused economic science of being incapable of providing correct guidelines for practice. On 10 April the same platform for debate published an article by Academician V. Semenikhin, who essentially develops the accusations leveled at economic scientists. Which in itself, you will agree, is not at all like a debate.

Both this method of conducting a "debate" and its one-sidedness, so to speak, were bound to offend me, an economic scientist. I wrote an article about that in PRAVDA entitled "Looking for a Scapegoat." Imagine my surprise when the article was printed on 4 May under two headlines "We Do Not Read the Tea Leaves" and "Do Not Read the Tea Leaves." The reader is entitled to be amazed, too—one article with two headlines? Yes, two headlines. The first appeared in the Moscow edition of the newspaper, the second in the provincial edition which I, the author, was unable to read in time. Indeed, I saw no need to do so because the day before I was given assurances that the article was the same as the galley proofs, which I had read; however, there was a change in or, more accurately, a distortion of my attitude toward the criticism leveled at economic science and therefore at me personally. The title "We Do Not Read..." has one meaning: a rejection of the reproaches of A. Chekalin and V. Semenikhin; whereas "Do Not Read..." indicates a readiness to consider them or even to put them into practice.

Considering it impossible to address myself to the platform for debate once more, I turned to IZVESTIYA. The problem is that the "polemic" started by the aforementioned changes is not over. Take, for example, V. Semenikhin's article. This is how he quotes N. Petrakov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and a USSR People's Deputy: "Thus, for example, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences N. Petrakov asserts that the administrative-edict system **allegedly** (my boldface—S.Sh note) 'was umbilically linked to centralized planning and distribution in their Stalinist form (OGONEK, No 10, 1989). But is this really a scientific argument against the need for the centralized planning of industry at the present stage of restructuring'."

In the first place, N. Petrakov does not use the word "allegedly," and that is fundamental. Second, the administrative system is indeed synonymous with the Stalinist model of centralized planning and distribution. Third, in his article N. Petrakov does not simply talk about the need for centralized planning but studies its main functions with which the majority of Soviet economists, and I am among them, agree.

"And when some of our economists," V. Semenikhin writes, "equate the terms 'edict system' and 'plan' system they are objecting not to planning as such but mean first and foremost the inadmissibility of the centralized planning of certain goods (in the form of state orders), which they regard as an obstacle to the natural development of the economy according to the laws of the free market. I believe that the time has come to examine this question thoroughly because under pressure from this group of economists a policy of the 'arbitrary' reduction of the number of state orders is being conducted to the detriment of the cause."

V. Semenikhin demands centralized planning in kind and by products mix. I can assure my colleague: There isn't a single professional Soviet economist who confuses the "edict" economy and "planned" economy. No one opposes the idea of the state order. Nevertheless, before terminating restructuring and going backward, which is essentially what V. Semenikhin advocates, I would ask him, as one academician to another, to realize that economics is also a science. And to consider how his colleagues would react if an academician, a specialist in "mathematical economic research," were to advise them on how to eliminate our vast lag behind the West in the information science sphere.

I have never been an apologist for the actions of the political leadership or the country's government, but I would never venture to mount such an attack against it as my opponent does in claiming that the policy of the "arbitrary" reduction of the number of state orders which damages the cause is being pursued by the leadership under the influence of a particular group of economists. Which group precisely? Why the anonymity? And what analysis does V. Semenikhin use as the basis for his discovery that the "arbitrary" reduction of the state order is damaging the cause? What cause? The development of the market or, conversely, an edict system which refuses to surrender?

It is not hard to see which "cause" V. Semenikhin is committed to. V. Semenikhin is worried that we have no mathematical models to help resolve problems which are relatively simple but labor-intensive. He is also concerned that we do not have a model which reflects at least in simplified form the many existing interconnections inherent in our socioeconomic system as an integrated whole. And even though he acknowledges the difficulties of creating such a model, I would ask my colleague if he has seen even one mathematical model of the economy? Has he even been once to the USSR State Planning Committee [Gosplan] Main Computer Center or to other scientific institutes of the Gosplan or the USSR Academy of Sciences which make extensive use of mathematical models? If he has, let him share with the readers his claims, supported by facts, that there were shortcomings in that area. The fact is that it is simply impossible to build a really operational model of this kind. There are no models like that in the West, either.

I was also equally annoyed by V. Semenikhin's uninformed criticism of the interview given by Academician L.I. Abalkin to a KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent (8 February 1989 entitled "Moonscape"). In my view that interview is one of the most profound and, I feel, difficult and honest reflections by an intelligent economist, politician, and citizen who is seriously concerned about our country's future.

Academician V. Semenikhin asks: What is to be done in the next 20-30 years? How are the people to be fed and clothed and the most acute problems resolved? Questions that are more than urgent. But L.I. Abalkin (and not only he) has repeatedly talked about what needs to be done for that. After all, we do not sit locked away in our offices, we virtually took up residence in the economic planning organs long ago. V. Semenikhin's assertion that L.I. Abalkin is calling for a return to the edict-based economy looks quite superficial. There simply was no such call, L.I. Abalkin is merely talking about what it is that is impelling a return to the edict-based system. I state with the utmost responsibility that neither the leadership of the economic planning organs nor economic scientists will ever go back on their word. There is no need for melodrama or panic. As the great Dante said:

"Here the heart must be firm and fear must not be the guide."

But do we not make a great many mistakes despite that? It is good that we are slowly beginning to recognize that. A party which fears to admit its own mistakes is dead, it has no role to play on the political stage. And you must be a realist, not an adventurist—we shall have to combine the "edict" and "economic" methods of business management for a number of years yet.

But Academician V. Semenikhin nevertheless has not completely buried restructuring; he left that to Doctor of Economic Sciences D. Valovoy (8 May 1989, "Economics at the Crossroads"), who resolved the task in a very simple manner: He routed present-day economic accountability [khozraschet] and sang his own praises. Even the "leader of all times and peoples" did not venture to sing his own praises time and again for a conclusion well known even to a non-economics student. A most trite conclusion at that: Gross output contains duplicate calculation [povtornyy schet]. Real emotion is aroused by that part of the article which says: "This was graphically shown by actual calculations during my conversations with M. Eydelman, director of the statistics scientific research institute, (PRAVDA, 9 December

1985), and W. Leontief, the well known U.S. economist, Nobel Prize winner, and an overseas member of the USSR Academy of Sciences (PRAVDA, 27 February 1989)." There was an amusing incident in the latter instance: The newspaper had to apologize to its readers because D. Valovoy's calculations simply proved to be wrong.

D. Valovoy sarcastically criticizes economists who are convinced that the indicator of commodity output should be viewed merely as an analytical-computational one [raschetno-analiticheskiy]. "Do the venerable 'fathers' of the reform seriously think," D. Valovoy writes, "that the indicator which monitors the fulfillment of the 5-year plan day and night and from top to bottom, determines the acceleration of our development, and provides wages (only in the first model of economic accountability—S.Sh.), can be called a guideline?!" Here we have approached one of the central questions of the management of our economy.

Of course, if the efficiency of activity is determined by the growth in commodity output, it is difficult to make this indicator merely computational. But the question must be put differently: Why do the government and the secretaries of oblast, city, and rayon party committees keep track day and night of the kinds of screws, ball bearings, and bolts that have been produced? The effective functioning of the economy should be judged by the economy itself, the market, and the consumer's pocket.

D. Valovoy explains the great efficiency of the economy under capitalism in the following way: "Individual economists don't give a fig about what the rates of growth of national income or national product are." In our country, too, no one gives a fig about any of it but we find it impossible to overcome our poverty. Strange, isn't it? Or perhaps their figs are different from ours?

So what, then, is D. Valovoy's positive program?

The main thing is that the wages fund should be determined on the basis of the normative (planned) labor intensiveness of the goods and services provided. If we add to this the normative for outlay of material resources per unit item, we obtain a scientific basis for the wholesale price. D. Valovoy considers that the "12th 5-Year Plan has been drawn up according to the worst models of wasteful cost-based planning." That may be so. But if you were to put D. Valovoy's idea on the scientific basis for the wholesale price into practice, the wasteful cost-based planning principle would be raised not even to the power of two, but the power of three. It is not clear either how this way will achieve equally beneficial conditions for the production of all items. D. Valovoy supposes that his construct "will be effective in treating the allergy to physical indicators suffered by economic managers and some scientists." But how is one to cure D. Valovoy's allergy to economic management methods, the market, and the other attributes of normal economic management?

D. Valovoy supposes that the introduction of economic accountability should have started with the reform of prices (true, he does not indicate which prices—S.Sh). Let me say straightaway that this question is extremely complex. Some economists do share D. Valovoy's standpoint, if, of course, he means a comprehensive reform of prices—wholesale, purchase, and retail. But it seems that D. Valovoy also wants to introduce into economic life maximum cost-based prices, once again set from the top, and thereby rise above, as it were, for the umpteenth time the objective laws of economics. Without studying or taking account of these laws he imposes his own laws on economics in their stead.

It is impossible to balance an economy producing 25 million kinds of items without the market. I would fully understand D. Valovoy if he proposed a more market-oriented paradigm of the first and second model of economic accountability. But in criticizing these models (I do not like them either—S.Sh.) he pushes economic accountability and self-financing toward a physical-cost basis rather than an organic combination of strategic planning and the market.

Neither economic accountability model suits D. Valovoy, because income is based not on labor but on rubles spent. Was there really no other argument left? D. Valovoy puts the question thus: Is it really legitimate to consider profit derived from the growth of retail prices economically accountable income and to establish wages and the material incentives fund on this basis? (Let us note that a change in retail prices does not influence enterprises' profit.—S.Sh.). Is there truth in his words? If you are arguing in terms of wholesale prices there undoubtedly is. But it is pointless to pursue an ideal system of economic accountability indicators—it simply does not exist. Only a market finely regulated by the center can break the producer's monopoly. Then everything will fall into place. And it will become increasingly difficult to obtain an inflationary profit. And the government should act more resolutely here.

The economic reform is making very difficult headway. Much has not been thought through adequately and many decisions have been either wrong or very indecisive. Inflation has not been curbed and the living standards of various strata of the population are falling. Many people, as we have already seen, are dragging the reform back. It is necessary to halt the flow of unearned income—here I entirely agree with D. Valovoy. A profound socioeconomic and, consequently, political crisis too is brewing. The economic reform needs immediate support. A resumption of physically based planning is a retreat that cannot be allowed.

Very radical measures to remove the state budget deficit and avert the burgeoning catastrophe on the consumer market are needed. The main thing required here is a sharp reduction in capital investments in production, a further cut in defense expenditure, speeding up of conversion, and optimization of the structure of the import and export of goods and capital. Having set our course, there is no need to rush about. Nor is it at all permissible to make such irresponsible statements as the following. "How do we remove surplus money (and simultanously keep it out of economic circulation in the future)? "Leave me out," say the pen-happy economists, dismissing the idea of monetary reform, that is, the nonequivalent (after a certain sum) exchange of old money for new. It could have the most unfavorable social consequences, it is alleged. What consequences? What does the honest worker, member of collective farm, engineer, or leader lose from nonequivalent exchange? Or the honest enterprise? (What is the enterprise's role here?—S.Sh.) They lose nothing! Those who have stolen or made tens of thousands or millions of rubles could suffer, but should we worry about their interests?!"

A. Chekalin's "essay" is pervaded by economic and indeed social shortsightedness, and I am entirely in agreement with the assessment of this given at the Congress of People's Deputies by N. Shmelev. The people await the reform of retail prices and monetary reform with genuine fear, which was already clearly reflected in the consumer market in 1988 and is being reflected even more strongly now. Why do some people call for measures which would result in our political leadership losing all the people's trust? Can they not see the destructiveness of instilling still greater panic and fear among the population?

All economists should bend their every effort to the cause alone rather than indulging in a contest of pride and vanity. And the declaration of a "witchhunt against economists," so familiar to us from our history, has always resulted in one thing, a retardation in the country's progress.

The creation of the State Economic Reform Commission, headed by an academic economist, will undoubtedy raise the role of economic science and with it its responsibility to society to a new level.

Scientific

Joint USSR-UK 'Juno' Space Mission Planned

Agreement Signed

LD2906134189 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—By TASS correspondent Oleg Grigoryev:

An agreement on the first-ever joint Soviet-British space mission, named Juno, was signed here today. In the presence of Lord Young, British secretary of state for trade and industry the agreement was signed by representatives of the USSR Glavkosmos directorate, the Litsensintorg foreign economic amalgamation and the British Anteguera company.

Juno will be the first space project funded also by British private and international companies active in cooperation with the Soviet Union. One of the project's sponsors and organizers is the London-based Moscow Narodny Bank which is providing starting capital for a marketing campaign and for attracting new sponsors. The mission will enable British research organizations and industrial firms to make use of Soviet space equipment and technology for obtaining specific scientific results.

The British astronaut selected for the mission will become a fully-fledged member of the joint crew that will carry out the docking with the Soviet orbital complex consisting of the Mir space station, research modules and a spacecraft. The blast-off is tentatively scheduled for April 12 1991, marking the thirtieth anniversary of the first Soviet mannned space flight—that of Soviet comonaut Yuriy Gagarin. The joint crew is expected to spend eight days in space.

The main objective of the Juno mission is for the British astronaut to carry out a series of scientific experiments on board the soviet orbital complex. The series will have been prepared by British scientists on instructions from the sponsors.

Cosmonaut Interviewed on Project

LD2906134589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Interview with Aleksandr Ivanovich Dunayev, chief of Glavkosmos, by correspondent Leonid Lazarevich; date and place not given]

[Text] [Presenter] An agreement on a joint Soviet-British manned space flight was signed in Moscow today. This project, which has been named "Juno," provides for joint research by cosmonauts of the two countries on the "Mir" orbital station. Listen to a report by our correspondent Leonid Lazarevich:

[Lazarevich] The agreement on the first Soviet-British space flight will be signed in a few minutes' time. This flight will be the 17th international flight in which Soviet cosmonauts have participated. At the table now are representatives of Glavkosmos, the Cosmonauts Training Center, designers and creators of Soviet space technology and representatives from the British side.

The agreement has been signed. [applause]

And now, an interview with Aleksandr Ivanovich Dunayev, the chief of Glavkosmos.

Aleksandr Ivanovich, when will this flight take place?

[Dunayev] We are planning that we should carry out this flight in 1991.

[Lazarevich] What kinds of experiments, even roughly, are planned?

[Dunayev] There has been a lot of discussion about experiments connected with micro-gravitation. In the main, space technology is a field which is fairly well developed in Britain, especially in the pharmacological field. There is great interest among scientists in Britain.

[Lazarevich] Does this mean that some kind of British scientific equipment will be sent up to the "Mir" station?

[Dunayev] That's true, too, and other variants are possible. Familiarization has shown that they found a lot of interesting solutions in our equipment, and it is possible that an experiment will be staged partially using our equipment.

[Lazarevich] Even when talks were just being held on this project we learned that it would be of a commerical nature.

[Dunayev] I can tell you frankly the price has been set at a good level, within the limits which we set at our last talks with the Japanese cosmonauts. For us this is a satisfactorily advantageous project.

[Lazarevich] That means over R10 million? That we can say?

[Dunayev] You're probably right! [chuckles]

UK Seeks Astronaut Candidate

LD2906215589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Today the headlines Astronaut Needed, Experience Not Essential appeared in national newspapers and in the business and scientific circles of Great Britain. It is in this way that the campaign to find an astronaut for a flight into space on board a Soviet spaceship is beginning. [video shows the "Juno" emblem]

There are simultaneously two symbols in this emblem for the forthcoming flight: The goose in Great Britain personifies the correct, happy road and the whole Soviet-British space project is called Juno. This is the name of the goddess who is patron of fraternal alliances. Glavkosmos [Cosmonauts Training Center] head Dunayev, Litsenzintorg general director Ignatov, and Professor Heinz Wolff, head of the scientific program—he is the representative from the British company Antequera Limited, specially created for the project—signed the document concluding the alliance.

The representatives from Great Britain call this project historical, though it has been signed by a private company, and the government is not putting any money into it. The 16 million pounds sterling necessary for the selection and training of the astronauts, and for paying for the services of the Soviet Union, will be collected by firms after the campaign, which should arouse the interest of the people of Britain, business circles, and the press. The aim is to acquire financing.

It seems to me that this is an example of that very enterprise and independence about which so much is being said now at the session of people's deputies. Not a penny is taken from the state budget and as a result all expenditure is recouped and all the firms taking part in the project will make a profit. The Japanese television company is thinking and acting in the same way, investing money in the flight by its journalist: The profit will be greater than the expenditure. A Soviet minister who volunteered to finance a flight by a Soviet journalist wanted to proceed in the same way. He wanted to invest and to get back a great deal more, but judging by the barrage of accusations that rained down upon him and the journalists who supported him, it is still difficult for our people to grasp the laws of large-scale marketing, business, and financing. They should understand by now. This very path can make the economy more healthier, not at the expense of the budget but at the expense of enterprise. [video shows the signing ceremony, pictures of the Buran, and then UK minister Young being interviewed]

Western journalists asked Lord Young, minister of trade and industry of Great Britain, whether this was a joke, flirting with the Soviets. In space and in business there are no jokes, he replied.

[Begin recording] [Young in English with superimposed Russian translation] I believe that a marriage of the private and state sectors of Britain and the Soviet Union has taken place here. I think that this is a very good symbol.

[Unidentified correspondent] Does this mean that Europe has accepted the Soviet Union into its family?

[Young] Yes, we are cooperating more and more closely. Here there are now many British firms. I have been in your country on a long visit. I was in the Ukraine, in Leningrad, and now I am in Moscow. It is clear that we are drawing closer together. I think that every country should do what it is successful doing.

[Correspondent] Will this be a one-time space project, with no follow-up?

[Young] I don't think so. Private capital and not the government has given birth to this project. This is a good beginning, and I think that it will have a successful continuation, because in my opinion, restructuring is a delegating of responsibility to a lower level. [video shows news conference with Ignatov, Dunayev, Wolff, and others] [end recording]

[Announcer] The news conference today was unusual. Two hundred British journalists asked questions by satellite to Moscow. Of course there was not enough time, as there isn't for us either, to talk in this reportage about everything. We will return to this subject at a later date, but for the time being a competition has been announced: Any citizen of Britain can fly in space on a Soviet space ship. Happy launchings to this project.

Military

Group of Forces in GDR Renamed 'Western Group'

LD2906161689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 29 Jun (TASS)—The USSR Defense Ministry announces that it has been decided to rename the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany as the Western Group of Forces. The status of these troops, as defined in the treaty on relations between the USSR and the GDR of 20 September 1955 and other bilateral agreements, and also the rights and responsibility arising from the relevant agreements and decisions of the USSR, the United States of America, Great Britain, and France during and since the war, remain unaffected.

Further Reportage on Damaged Submarine

Sub Returns to Home Base

PM3006101989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 6

[I. Ruslanov report: "Submarine Returns to Base"]

[Text] On 28 June the Soviet nuclear submarine which suffered an accident in the Norwegian Sea (IZVESTIYA nos 178, 179) returned to base in Severomorsk.

The disarming of the submarine has begun and the shutdown cooling of the power unit is continuing. The temperature of the reactor on the port side has dropped to 73 degrees, while on the other, starboard, side, where the accident occurred, the temperature has fallen to 72 degrees. A technical commission led by Vice Admiral V. Zaytsev will begin work when the equipment has fully cooled. The only thing that is clear at present is that depressurization has occurred in the main power unit of the first circuit. The causes of the incident will be established only after a thorough inspection of the submarine.

The radiation situation in the compartments is normal. The personnel are in good health. Admiral F. Gromov, commander of the Northern Fleet, has been aboard the submarine.

Rumors About Sub 'Exaggerated'

LD2906205989 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Murmansk June 29 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vasily Belousov:

Rumours about a hard situation on board the northern fleet's nuclear-powered submarine where a nuclear power plant malfunctioned are obviously exaggerated. A TASS correspondent saw convincing evidence of that when he visited the submarine's base on Thursday.

"The submarine arrived here under its own power although the reactor had been shut down immediately after a water leak from the primary circuit had been discovered," said commander of the submarine Captain First Class Yuriy Kasatkin.

"We used the auxiliary engine. The crew acted efficiently and concertedly in the extreme conditions. The breakdown was quickly localized and none of the seamen suffered."

The crew were up to the mark in difficult conditions. This was a manifestation of a high professional training of commissioned and warrant officers and seamen. This fact was also noted with satisfaction by the members of a special commission, consisting of representatives of the Navy, science, and industry, who began to inquire into the circumstances of the incident.

It is supposed that the water leak that occurred in the primary circuit's unstoppage sector has not been reached up to now because of the danger of radioactive contamination. [sentence as received] The water from it was collected into a special tank available on board the submarine.

Upon the submarine's arrival at the base, the pumping of the water into a special support vessel was immediately organised. So, the source of possible radioactive contamination of the environment is reliably isolated.

The pumping system was personally checked by Captain Second Class Dahir Urtenov, one of the leaders of the electro-mechanical service of the submarine force.

"I inspected all parts of the submarine where the water could have leaked through hoses during the pumping into the support vessel," he told the TASS correspondent. "Everything proved all right".

The TASS correspondent met Urtenov at the garrison polyclinic where the officer, just as all the members of the submarine crew, was undergoing a radiometric monitoring following his entry into the dangerous area of the nuclear-powered submarine.

Medical specialists did not detect any deviations from the norm in his organism. All members of the crew participating in the voyage are also in sound health.

This time there were no serious consequences at sea. Both the crew and coastal services acted quite efficiently.

Observations on Accidents at Sea

PM2906113189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jun 89 First Edition p 6

[Article by A. Gorokhov: "Dangerous Depths. The Alarming Tally of Accidents at Sea"]

[Text] With the loss of the submarine "Komsomolets" with most of its crew in the Norwegian Sea still causing pain, it is reported from near the same Bear Island that there has been another accident, again on a nuclear submarine with conventional and nuclear weapons on board.

Again the hearts of submariners' relatives, wives, and children started pounding and the telephones in editorial offices were again red-hot. What can we say to set their minds at rest; what in fact do we know about the accidents in the Soviet submarine fleet?

Well, I have in my personal archives information on a 1961 incident in the Baltic, a fire in 1972 on a boat returning from an independent cruise, an incident in the Sea of Japan in September 1984. Quite recently, in October 1986, we lost a boat with ballistic missiles on board in the Atlantic.

But these are archives. Odd lines from various papers. People want to know more. But who is going to tell them? On receiving the official announcement we called Admiral K. Makarov, naval chief of main staff. True to the age-old rule of saying nothing to the press without an order from on high, the admiral refused point-blank to comment.

...Around 4 years ago, in a remote Soviet strategic missile forces' garrison, I was a chance witness when a small group of civilians (at least they were dressed in civilian clothes) set off from a hotel in a capacious bus for the launch positions. Apparently, they were industrial personnel carrying out some further work on article "X," shall we say.

Certain "seditious" questions might immediately occur even to someone who is not very conversant with the finer operating details of our military-industrial complex. For instance, how could a missile requiring further work be on combat standby? What kind soul (was it not Leonid Ilich?), trusting in the chief designer or his lofty patrons, sanctioned the adoption of unfinished hardware, resulting in another round of magnificent financial bonuses, awards, and honorary titles? What do we make of a "kind" Defense Ministry that has again obediently disbursed billions of rubles, satisfied with what it is given and not what is needed for the effective (qualitative, not quantitative) defense of the homeland?

For decades we journalists have angrily sniped at the transatlantic military-industrial complex, believing, no doubt, that we were making tanks, submarines, and aircraft at group "B" industrial enterprises. How are we going to spend the R32.6 billion that have been made available this year for the purchase of armaments and equipment? Intelligently? Will we be buying what is really necessary for adequate defense or will we be on our beam-ends, while, on the other hand, skillfully eliminating the consequences of the next accident?.. How are the customer and the producer of military technology interacting? Is everything OK? After all, the alarming tally of emergencies at sea makes one wonder.

In the light of the recent Soviet visit by Chairman of the U.S. Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral W. Crowe, which, judging by what the guest himself said, was very friendly and productive, the following idea occurs to one: Why not suggest to the Americans and their allies possessing their own nuclear forces that they recall all their submarines from combat positions for a time? Meanwhile, in conditions of parity, we would be able to put all our boats in dock and carry out a thorough inspection: go through the maintenance logs with a fine-tooth comb to finally establish who personally adopted into operational service equipment which poses an intrinsic threat not of war, but to the safety of the crews and of extensive areas of an independent cruise.

It is not the press' job, of course, to teach the forces combat training and weapons employment. It is not our business. But the lives of people who have put their faith in the regulations and have taken on the onerous duties of armed defender of the homeland, their anxieties and their joys are our business, if you don't mind.

What about the pompous tone, if you can remember it, of the Northern Fleet command's comments on the progress of the rescue operations on the "Komsomolets"? Really and truly, you got the impression that another major victory for Russian weapons had been achieved in the Norwegian Sea.

A well-presented commander's speech has long since ceased to be an argument. Even if the ideas in the simple text are sometimes very wide-ranging, but, at the same time, firm and vigorous. And whether at an important meeting or on the television. But what about the soldiers who weekly turn to PRAVDA, trying to escape the taunts; the tanks and trucks that continue to get stuck on railroad crossings, on the territories of allied states, what is more, causing derailments and deaths, of very young people, as a rule; the ultramodern aircraft that come down in the most unexpected places; the reactor compartments of nuclear submarines that break down with depressing regularity? Alas, they do not talk about this. Obviously they have it in mind when they promise radical change, which, apparently, is just around the corner. But where and when?

It is possible, of course, even in conditions of the declared switch to exclusively qualitative parameters in defense building, to "allocate" to the press, as in the past, the mere role of chronicler of the Armed Forces. You can also regard any criticism of a leader as an attack on the army, an attempt to undermine its authority. Come on!

The Armed Forces' prestige would, in fact, increase if leading army comrades ceased regarding themselves as repositories of the ultimate truth.

I appreciate that the Soviet Navy's leadership is far removed from the concerns of the media. It has enough of its own. But the Navy's political directorate might at least inquire once a year: What are naval seamen writing about to PRAVDA? Incidentally, the mail is abundant and, most important, of a practical nature.

Long ago, in September 1918, V.I. Lenin posed the following questions: "Are we hunting down the cowardly commanders and the dullards? Have we discredited the good-for-nothing regiments in the eyes of Russia? Have we 'caught' a sufficient number of bad specimens, who should be hounded out of the army for being unfit, negligent, unpunctual, and so on?" He answered his own questions: "We do not have a businesslike, ruthless, and truly revolutionary WAR AGAINST SPECIFIC malefactors." [sentence as published]

I am not a great one for sprinkling quotations all over the place. But, really and truly, classics are classics, it is an old quotation, but there is not a word in it that is not right on target today.

Akhromeyev Interviewed on Role of Military

LD2906133189 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 2025 GMT 28 Jun 89

[Interview with Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev by unidentified correspondent; date, place not specified; from the "Panorama" program]

[Text] [unidentified presenter] Sergey Akhromeyev, who is 66 years old, was born in a peasant family. He is the marshal of the Soviet Union who was able to understand the calling of the time and has modified his previous doctrinaire political and military opinion. This is a major move in the case of a professional soldier. In the past he believed that political questions could be solved by military means, as, for example, in Afghanistan, in Hungary in 1956, or in Czechoslovakia in 1968. Akhromeyev was able to break with the empire-building military doctrine of Stalin, which after the second world war was built on the striking force of an enormous army, on the control of foreign territories, in other words, on military force and aggression. In the view of the marshal, in the 1970's Brezhnev gave excessive freedom to the military, and the Soviet Union overarmed itself. It was one reason why military solutions, confrontation, and the arms race with the United States came to the fore.

[Begin recording] [unidentified correspondent] Sergey Akhromeyev was born in 1923. He has been a soldier since he was 17 years old. He fought in World War II as an officer. After the completion of the academies... [pauses] his military career is moving upward without a break—he is deputy head of command in the Far Eastern Military District, the most difficult area. From 1979 he was deputy to Chief of Staff Ogarkhov; then, after the South Korean airliner incident he was chief of staff of the Soviet Army for 4 years. He is a personality in the sphere of disarmament diplomacy, well known as such throughout the world. He is present at all significant negotiations.

I saw you in Reykjavik in civilian clothes. Are you happiest in civilian clothes or in uniform?

[Akhromeyev, speaking in Russian, with superimposed Hungarian translation] I feel better this way, whereas when wearing civilian clothes I feel—excuse me for the expression—as if I were naked, being in an undressed state. I have been serving in the armed forces for 49 years; I have worn every kind of military uniform. This is what I have become accustomed to; I feel dressed up when I wear a uniform. After all, since I was 17, until now, at the age of 66, I have been a soldier.

[Correspondent] What does it mean to be a professional soldier in the Soviet Union today, or more precisely, recently?

[Akhromeyev] We are living in extraordinary times. In the past I always considered the most important period of my life to be the Great Patriotic War, because then it was the survival of the Soviet State which was in danger, it was the fate of the Soviet people which was at stake. You recall the kind of policy the imperialists were carrying out against the Slavic peoples. On the other hand, these days, at the time of restructuring, I have formed the opinion that this is the second most important period of my life of a determining nature, because I have the opportunity to participate, and what is more, actively participate, in the building of our society, in the creation of a more humane socialist society. I am glad that I can take my share in this work. What is more, it is not only myself who feels this way. All generals and officers of our Army think this way.

[Correspondent] Is it not contradicted by the fact that recently very significant changes have taken place in the personnel composition of the Soviet Army; 45 percent of the top military leadership of the Soviet Army has been replaced, and also approximately 60 percent of the middle-level leaders?

[Akhromeyev] We must seek the reasons for this in stagnation, where in the armed forces the natural change of cadres was obstructed, and an enormous number of such people accumulated who, on grounds of age, should have already left the service. I myself asked last year for my release from the position of chief of staff, because my view is that it is impossible, at the age of 66, to fulfill a job which is so demanding. If I consider the way I was thinking in 1985, and the way I think now, in 1989, then I must say that while my world view has not changed fundamentally it has become modified to a significant degree.

[Correspondent] (?Ten) years ago, when you were first deputy chief of staff, did you have a possibility to have a say in the decision to order Soviet troops into Afghanistan? I ask this because many people, even here in Moscow, say that this decision was made in a small-numbered, narrow political circle, without soliciting the views of the military experts.

[Akhromeyev] Well, the post of deputy chief of staff is not such a high position that I would have been able to assume the right to have a say in the making of any kind of political decision. It is a high position, but it is primarily a military post whose holder carries out the decisions already made.

[Correspondent] However, the question remains open. What was the level on which the decision was made about the Soviet troops' marching into Afghanistan?

[Akhromeyev] Such a decision could have been made only by the leadership of the country.

[Correspondent] Does the term leadership refer to the Politburo or [words indistinct]?

[Akhromeyev] There are certain things about which you do not know, and there are certain things even I do not know about.

[Correspondent] It is one thing for me not to know about these things, but I find it difficult to believe that you do not know either, or, on the contrary, you...[changes tack] the question raises itself as to what is the level of leadership, or what has been the level of the leadership which for you, the marshals of the Soviet Union, was impossible to reach, which you could not reach?

[Akhromeyev] What do you mean by the term impossible to reach? [Words indistinct] the chief of staff is subordinated to the minister of defense, from which it follows that the minister of defense participated in making the decision. When he informed us that such a decision has been made, we asked him about its practical implementation. However, it is impossible to solve the Afghanistan problem by military means. Practically immediately after Mikhail Gorbachev became leader of the country, the issue of the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan was placed on the agenda. However, it was not an issue which is possible to solve within 24 hours. A series of political and military political conditions had to be created in order to implement this decision. Their preparation and implementation took 3 years.

[Correspondent] In your view, is NATO threatening, in a military sense?

[Akhromeyev] In the West this question is often put in this way: Do you believe, Mr Akhromeyev, that the United States would launch a war against the Soviet Union? My personal opinion is no. Today they have no such intention. By the way, this is the result of the hard work of the past 4 years. In 1984 I would not have answered this question in this way.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion about a professional army?

[Akhromeyev] In my view, in the Soviet Union, the level of economic development at present is such that we are unable to solve this problem. In the Soviet Union, now, after the staff reductions, 3.7 million men serve in the Soviet Army. Roughly speaking, one quarter of the army is made up of commissioned and noncommissioned officers. The number of privates and lower-ranking noncommissioned officers serving at present under compulsory military service may be estimated at 2.5 million.

If we establish a professional army then it means that we must provide them with the same wages and allowances as the officer staff. For this, huge financial resources are needed; for wages, for housing, for social and cultural buildings, and many things which, in my view, are in excess of our present means at the moment.

Through the democratization of society and its becoming more open, the secrecy relating to military problems is also decreasing. The best proof of this is that we have made the military budget public. In the past we have treated as secret, under seven seals, all things relating to the construction of the armed forces. Now we talk openly about the organizational structure, about its transformation, that it must be made of a defensive character, and we talk openly also about the amount of weapons the various combined corps and military units possess.

Let me show you something which may appear to you to be a toy. These are satellite pictures, which are available—for good money—to everyone.

[Correspondent] Is this Hungary?

[Akhromeyev] Yes, it is an airport, on Csepel Island.

[Correspondent] Someone once said that by using certain instruments it is possible to read from space the license plate of a car. Well, this in one thing; on the other hand, it is forbidden to this day to take a picture of Moscow from the Ostankino television tower. Do you understand this contradiction? Anyway, how much do you know about the other side, and with what success are the intelligence services of the two sides working? [Akhromeyev laughs] I think you know everything about each other.

[Akhromeyev] I think both sides know a lot about each other. First, because a great many things are published, second, you have shown me this picture. Modern cosmic intelligence-gathering instruments have the ability to break things into components of about 30 cm. So, if a set of 25 cm letters is displayed on a bus then it is possible to read it from space.

[Correspondent] Is it possible that in the Warsaw Pact countries political problems will be solved by military means? I have 1966 and 1968 in mind, and also the doctrine which does not exist officially, but which is nonetheless called a Brezhnev doctrine in other countries.

[Akhromeyev] I think you are familiar with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's 7 December 1988 UN speech. He clearly formulated that today, under the present circumstances, all states, all peoples must be given the right, in a sovereign manner, to choose the social construction in which they want to live. In addition to this, full independence and full responsibility must be provided for all those decisions made by the individual state governments. And the right to hold elections rules out the possibility of military intervention. [end recording]

Lizichev Addresses Moscow District Party Aktiv

PM2906142089 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jun 89 First Edition p 3

[Reserve Colonel F. Semyanovskiy report: "Deepening Restructuring"]

[Text] A meeting of the Moscow Military District party aktiv analyzed the state of political work among troops and the standard of combat readiness and military discipline from the standpoint of the CPSU Central Committee April (1989) Plenum and the First Congress of USSR People's Deputies.

The meeting was addressed by Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The report by district commander Colonel General N. Kalinin and the speeches by V. Kuznetsov, secretary of Moscow City CPSU Committee, Lieutenant General A. Redko, Major General N. Loktionov, Guards Colonel A. Gerasimov and Sergeant Kh. Kuusma, and others proposed many ways of improving organizational, ideological, and cadre work. There was an energetic discussion of measures to step up the education of servicemen in the spirit of internationalism and military comradeship, impose regulation order, eradicate bullying of new recruits, and strengthen links with the public. Particular attention was devoted to improving the style of the activity of political organs, party committees, and bureaus and of all the district's Communists in further deepening restructuring.